

INTRODUCTION TO ...

The Twenty Latin American Nations Members of the OAS

Pan American Union • Washington, D. C., 1956



ARGENTINA





Area: 1,073,700 sq. miles Population: 17,424,926 Capital: Buenos Aires Currency: Peso = \$.07 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: July 9, 1816 National Flower: Flor de Ceibo National Hero: José de San Martín

Argentina, incorrectly named "Land of Silver" by the early European settlers, is a country of tremendous agricultural and forest resources; it is world-famous for its beef and wheat, its wealth of spectacular beauty found in the Andean Lake region, and its magnificent capital, Buenos Aires.

GEOGRAPHY: Climate is generally temperate, with wide variations in temperature from the jungles of the Chaco to the glaciers of Tierra del Fuego. The sub-tropical northeast is made up of the Chaco plains, whose dense quebracho forests are the world's major source of tannin used in leather-tanning, and the fertile Mesopotamia region. Iguassú Falls, with its 275 separate cataracts, is located in the northeast corner of Misiones Territory, an area noted for its production of verba mate.

The pampa, the heart of Argentina, lies south of Chaco. This great plain is divided roughly into five zones of production: dairy, fruit, and truck farming around Buenos Aires; the livestock zone extending from Mesopotamia to Mar del Plata; the corn and flax production center around Rosario; the alfalfa zone in the west and south, and the famous "wheat crescent" which extends some 600 miles.

The mountainous Andean region includes Mt. Aconcagua--the hemisphere's loftiest peak,--warm,luxuri-ant valleys, great salt plains and barren table-lands. Corn, olives, and citrus fruits are cultivated in the sunny valleys framed by the snow-capped Andes.

South of the Rio Colorado lie the arid, windswept plateaus of Patagonia.

In the lowland which separates the plateaus from the Andean foothills one finds beautiful glacial lakes surrounded by heavily wooded national parks. Patagonia is devoted primarily to sheep-raising and wool production. Argentina's most important petroleum field is located in the northeast at Comodoro Rivadavia.

Tierra del Fuego, an island south of the Strait of Magellan, is shared by Chile and Argentina. Ushuaia, capital of Argentina's portion, is the southernmost seat of organized government on the globe.

<u>CULTURE</u>: The people, institutions and culture are a blend of the Old World and the New, merged in a uniquely Argentine pattern. The tide of European immigration which started in the 1850's has resulted in approximately 90 per cent of the population being of unmixed European origin. This admixture of nationalities with Argentines of Spanish descent has produced a cosmopolitan, dynamic, and progressive people.

Argentina's unique, colorful gaucho slowly faded into oblivion with the transformation of the pampa into great estancias and fenced-in farmlands during the 19th century. These nomadic horsemen's distinctive songs, dances and way of life are preserved in Argentine folklore and literature. Modern gauchos keep the traditional costume with its baggy bombachas, (pants), short boots, spurs, black felt sombrero and poncho. The nationalist movement in music has centered around the inimitable gaucho. Music plays an important part in Argentine culture, with the folklore music of the provinces showing both Spanish and Indian influences. It has inspired a large number of serious compositions.

Spanish cultural influences are seen in the colonial cities of the northwest: aristocratic Córdoba, with its tradition of culture and learning that sets it apart; the "Garden of the Republic," Tucumán; historic Santa Fe, and beautiful Mendoza in the heart of the wine-making country. These cities contain fine examples of colonial art and architecture.

In the east one sees the effect of European influences. Buenos Aires, South America's largest city, is one of the major seaports of the world. This modern, cosmopolitan capital, in addition to being the political capital of the country, is likewise the cultural and industrial center of Argentina. One-fourth of the population of the country is concentrated in greater Buenos Aires. Literature and the arts are encouraged in many ways by the government's National Cultural Commission. Several scientific institutions in Buenos Aires have achieved world-wide recognition. "B.A." is also the leading publishing center of the Spanish-speaking world, with well over 100 publishing houses. Modern Rosario, the second city of the Republic, is a shipping port for grain and other agricultural exports, chief industrial and distribution center for the region, and railway terminus.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT: In 1516 Juan Díaz de Solís, searching for a passage to the "western sea," anchored in the great estuary of the Atlantic later named Río de la Plata and claimed the territory for the Spanish Crown. Tales of the fabulous wealth of the Inca Empire attracted other conquerors and adventurers, but it was not until 1580 that Juan de Garay succeeded in establishing the city of Buenos Aires. On May 25, 1810, the people demanded self-government, forced the vice oy to resign, and created a patriotic council called the "first junta." After winning freedom for Argentina the Liberator José de San Martín, carried the struggle for freedom over the Andes into Chile and Peru. In 1816, the Congress of Tucumán drafted and adopted the national Declaration of Independence. In 1853 the Congress of Santa Fe adopted the federal Constitution, which unified the country and marked the beginning of the modern republican period. Since then the original document has been amended four times, the most radical modification being made in 1949 by the National Constituent Convention.

The Constitution provides for three branches of government; legislative, executive, and judicial; a Congress of two houses, a Supreme Court and lower courts. The executive power is vested in the president, who is executive by a simple plurality. The Cabinet consists of 21 ministers.

ECONOMY: Argentine industrial output accounts for roughly one-half of the total national production, as compared with 40 per cent contributed by agriculture and livestock. This is perhaps the most significant index of the radical changes which have taken place in an economy still regarded by many as basically agricultural.

Argentina's chief exports are meat, hides, wool, and livestock by-products; wheat, corn, and other grains; vegetable oil and oilseeds; fresh fruits and dairy products, and quebracho extract and timber. Its principal imports are machinery and vehicles; iron, metals and their manufactures; coal and lubricants; textiles, chemical and pharmaceutical products; food products and tobacco; paper, lumber, cement, china and glass.

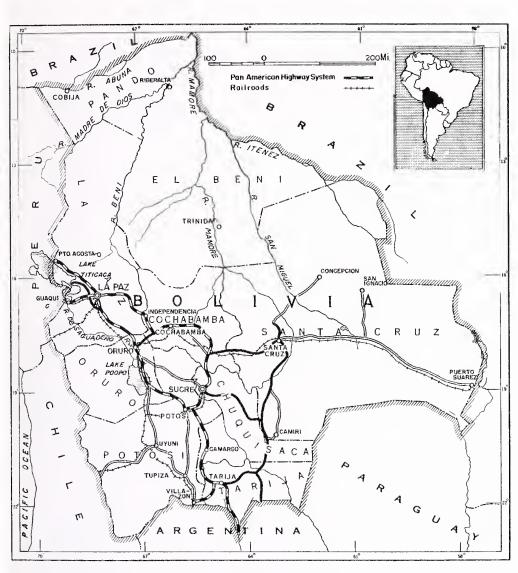
FLAG: The Argentine flag consists of three horizontal stripes, equal in width; the middle one is white with a golden sun (symbol of the Incas) in the center, and the other two are light blue.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order: Argentina, 10 cents; Visit Argentina, 15 cents; Jose de San Martín, 10 cents; Yerba Mate, 10 cents; Petroleum, 10 cents; Constitution of the Argentine Nation, 25 cents; A Statement of the Laws of Argentina, \$5.00; Pettoruti, 50 cents. ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Per year, \$3.00.

Catalog of the Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

BOLIVIA





Area: 416,040 square miles Population: 3,019,031

Capital: La Paz

Currency: Boliviano - \$.0052 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: August 6, 1825 National Hero: Antonio José de Sucre

National Flower: Khantuta

Bolivia is a vast land of towering mountains, big rivers and dense forests. Its austere and cold plateau contrasts vividly with the cool deep valleys and the baking tropical plains. The Bolivian capital is the world's highest, and Paso del Cóndor, more than 16,000 feet above sea level, is said to be the highest mountain pass. Enormously rich in natural resources, Bolivia is one of the leading tin-producing countries. Its wealth of minerals includes valuable deposits of copper, lead, zinc, antimony, bismuth, wolfram, gold, tungsten and petroleum.

GEOGRAPHY: Bolivia, which has no outlet of its own to the sea, is divided into four unique regions. In the west is the altiplano, which is one of the world's highest inhabited regions. Snow-covered mountains of tremendous heights and superb beauty rise from a cold, bleak high plateau often swept by bitter raw winds. The plateau is cut in some places by deep wooded gorges or is broken by mountain ridges. The altiplano, home of the llama, vicuña and alpaca, is the site of the leading cities and great mineral deposits. The important copper mining center of Corocoro is located here. An intermediary region known as the yungas is made up of

innumerable gorges that occasionally become deep, balmy narrow valleys. Because of the fertility of this semi-tropical land, it is known as Bolivia's garden and granery. Bolivia's selvas or dense forest belt is on the eastern slopes of the mountains and contains valuable species of woods. In the east the largely undeveloped and thinly populated tropical lowlands are grazing lands.

Illampu, Illimani and Sajama, three of the highest mountains in the Western Hemisphere, are in Bolivia while the world's highest lake, Lake Titicaca, lies partly in Peru and partly in Bolivia.

CULTURE: The racial background of Bolivia's population is primarily made up of three groups; those of Spanish descent, Indians and mestizos (Spanish and Indian ancestry). The large majority of the present day Indians belong to two groups, the robust docile Quechuas and the tacitum, melancholy Aymarás. Numerous primitive tribes inhabit eastern Bolivia.

Indian art of the Tiahuanaco period has been found in the Lake Titicaca region giving evidence of a long, very high pre-Inca civilization. Colonial Bolivian architecture is of a composite Creole style, a fusion of Spanish form and Indian decoration. Modern art is of Indo-Ilispanic influence. The leading exponent of indigenous art in Bolivia is Cecilio Guzmán de Rojas, whose oil paintings capture the spirit of the country. Colonial literature was concerned mainly with chronicles and scientific and religious treatises. Literature came into its own here in the 19th century. "Prince of Bolivian writers," Gabriel René Moreno, has a preeminent place in American letters. Bolivian music seems to be a direct reflection of the country's landscape.

In a narrow rugged canyon guarded by the towering snowy mountain Illimani lies La Paz, the actual Bolivian capital. According to an arrangement made in 1898, Sucre, the city where the Supreme Court holds its sessions, is the official capital of the Republic as it always has been. However, La Paz is the commercial, industrial and transportation center of the country and the executive and legislative branches of the government operate from there. La Paz streets, built on various levels to conform to the abruptly changing terrain, are lined with colonial churches and mansions with their venerable walls and ornate fronts which contrast sharply with the functional design of modernistic apartments and business buildings. Heart of the city is the Plaza Murillo. Adding color to the scene is the market, where Indians from far and near gather to sell their wares. The aristocratic, nominal capital city of Sucre preserves its Castilian traditions and customs intact. Its University of San Francisco Xavier, called the cradle of South American independence, is an outstanding educational institution. Sucre's graceful white buildings gleam against the deep green background of luxuriant foliage.

The impressive stone ruins of the ancient Indian city of Tiahuanaco are famous. Scenic Copacabana, in the Lake Titicaca region, abounds in lnca and pre-lnca ruins and is noted for its church, elaborately costumed religious processions and unique primitive festivals honoring the Virgin of the lake. Sorata, lying in the shadow of the imposing mountain Illampu, is a favorite resort popular for its skiing, mountain climbing, swimming and boating. Principal mining and railroad center is progressive Oruro, built on the steep slopes of Uru-Uru and surrounded by the tin mines of San José. Potosí, long known as one of the world's most important silver mining centers, is situated at the foot of the famous Cerro Rico (Rich Hill). Today its importance is due to its production of tin, bismuth and tungsten.

Cochabamba, Bolivia's second city, is the principal distributing center for the eastern region and is the center of Bolivia's richest agricultural region. Santa Cruz, leading city of the plains, lies in a region rich in petroleum, gold and salt beds, as well as in agricultural products.

HISTORY: Before the Spanish conquest, Bolivia was under Inca rule. The Spanish conquistador Francisco Pizarro sent exploring parties from Peru to Bolivia in 1538. Pedro de Anzures founded La Plata, the present city of Sucre, which was to become the cultural capital of much of the continent. Discovery of silver at Potosí greatly enhanced the importance of Bolivian territory in the eyes of the Spaniards. In 1559 the present Bolivia was made part of the viceroyalty of Peru under the designation of the Audiencia (supreme tribunal) of Charcas with its capital at La Plata. Revolutionary movements began early in 1661 and rebellions continued throughout the 18th century. In 1776 the Audiencia of Charcas was joined to the viceroyalty of Buenos Aires. In 1809 a group of patriots, headed by Pedro Domingo Murillo, imprisoned the Spanish governor at La Paz, launching the first declaration of independence in South America. This started 15 years of bitter guerrilla warfare. In 1825 a formal declaration of independence was issued by authority of Bolivar. The new republic was named after him. In 1836 a confederacy was formed with Peru, which lasted only four years. The War of the Pacific (1879-1884), with Bolivia and Peru on one side and Chile on the other, originated in Bolivia's long-standing differences with Chile over the nitrate-rich territories then owned by Bolivia on the Pacific coast. This war resulted in Bolivia losing her Pacific coastline, thus becoming a landlocked nation. In 1931 Bolivia became involved in the Chaco war with Paraguay over claims to the Chaco Boreal, the lowlands in the heart of South America shared by both countries. Hostilities ceased in 1935 and in 1938 the boundary between the two countries was fixed and a treaty signed.

The Bolivian constitution provides for a centralized republic, with a government made up of three branches: Legislative, executive and judicial. Legislative power is vested in the National Congress, consisting of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate. Executive power is exercised by the President, elected by direct vote, and by a cabinet of Ministers of State.

ECONOMY: Fundamentally, Bolivia has a mining economy. Tin, silver, lead, tungsten, zinc antimony and copper together make up the greatest percentage of the value of exports. While agriculture does not loom large in Bolivia's total economy, it has given rise to several small domestic industries. Manufacturing is largely limited to easily produced commodities destined for the domestic market. Leading imports are livestock, wheat, sugar, machinery and accessories, textiles and vehicles.

FLAG: The Bolivian flag consists of three horizontal stripes. The upper stripe is red, the center one gold and the lower one green. Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order:

Bolivia, 10 cents; Petroleum, 10 cents; Rubber, 10 cents; Tin, 10 cents; Simon Bolivar, 10 cents; A Statement of the Laws of Bolivia, \$5.00.

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BRAZIL



PAN AMERICAN UNION WASHINGTON 6, D.C.



Area: 3,288,045 sq. miles Population: 52,645,479 Capital: Rio de Janeiro

Capital: Rio de Janeiro Currency: Cruzeiro = \$.0534 U.S.

Language: Portuguese

Independence Day: September 7, 1822

National Hero: José Bonifacio de Andrada e Silva

National Flower: Ipé

Brazil is often called the 'land of the future' because of its dynamic people and varied resources. With its vast, untapped forest riches and minerals, its large iron deposits, and its hydroelectric power potential, Brazil is still in the pioneering stage. Its twenty states, Federal District, and five territories make up the largest republic in Latin America, larger than the continental United States. Here one finds the world's largest river, the Amazon; two waterfalls, Iguassú and Paulo Afonso, that are higher than Niagara, and the unique Butantán Institute, better known as the 'Snake Farm,' which renders invaluable service to humanity by developing serums as part of its broad program of scientific research. Brazil helps to fill the world's coffee cups, producing more than one-half of the total world output of coffee. São Paulo's phenomenal growth ranks it as one of the fastest-growing cities of the 20th century.

GEOGRAPHY: Climate in Brazil varies from tropical in the north to temperate in the south. The lowlying, sparsely settled Amazon basin, which explorer Francisco de Orellana named in honor of a tribe of white women warriors he claimed to have discovered there, is hot and humid. Here one finds virgin forests, abounding in innumerable varieties of forest products. States of the half-forest, half-desert expanse of uplands in the northeast are warm but dry. Cotton, cacao, sugar cane, tobacco and coffee are produced here. Here, too, carnaúba wax is harvested from a variety of palm particularly suited to drought conditions. The southern and coastal regions are cooler with moderate but adequate rainfall. One finds here the most fertile and productive lands, the coffee fazendas, the cotton, fruits and livestock that contribute so heavily to the export trade, the principal mineral deposits and manufacturing centers.

<u>CULTURE</u>: A land of color and culture, Brazil's people and cities reflect a varied background. The population is made up of all the basic stocks into which the human race is divided - - Indian, Caucasian, Negro and Asiatic. Brazil is proud of the fact that it has no segregation and creates no outcasts.

In Recife, the "Venice of America", one can see the influence of Negro culture in the colorful customs of the recifenses, especially in their annual carnival. This is true also of Salvador whose tradition is flavored by African folklore preserved in the music, dances and macumba (voodoo) rituals of the descendents of the Sudanese slaves. In the meat-packing and wine producing state of Rio Grande do Sul one sees workers dressed in clothing typical of their ancestral lands -- Portugal, Bavaria, Tuscany. "Rio," the cosmopolitan capital, blends the beauties of Nature and Man. It is the center of Brazil's modern architecture movement. Its many attractions include Copacabana Beach, the famous Sugarloaf Mountain, the figure of Christ the Redeemer on Corcovado peak, patterned mosaic sidewalks, gracious old churches with their carved, gold leaf altars, and the well-known pre-Lenten Carnival. São Paulo, South America's greatest industrial center, is typified by diversified industries and skyscrapers.

HISTORY: Brazil was discovered in 1500 by the Portuguese navigator Pedro Alvares Cabral, who claimed the territory for King Manuel of Portugal. Cabral called the region Vera Cruz, a name eventually changed to Brasil, after a dyewood, pau-brasil, found and exported by the early settlers. Brazil's first movement for independence was led by idealistic Joaquin José da Silva Xavier, better known as Tiradentes (the 'Toothpuller'), in 1789. On September 7, 1822, Dom Pedro, son of the Portuguese King João VI, declared Brazil's independence and was proclaimed constitutional Emperor. On November 15, 1889, a coup d'état proclaimed a Federal Republic, a change made without violence or bloodshed.

José Bonifació de Andrada e Silva, Brazil's national hero, was Minister of Interior and Foreign Affairs in Dom Pedro's time. He is lovingly called the "Patriarch of Independence".

GOVERNMENT: Brazil's liberal and progressive constitution provides for the separation of power among three branches of the government—legislative, executive and judicial. Brazil has a President who is popularly elected for a five-year term and may not succeed himself. He is assisted by a Cabinet of ten Ministers whom he appoints. The legislative power is vested in the National Congress which consists of two houses; the Federal Senate and the Chamber of Deputies. The Federal Judiciary consists of a Federal Supreme Court, the Federal Court of Appeals, and military, electoral, and labor tribunals.

ECONOMY: The national economy of Brazil is largely dependent upon its export trade in agricultural and forest products, the principal ones being coffee, rice, beans, cacao, carnaúba wax, and sisal fiber. Industrial diamonds, rock crystal, and precious and semi-precious gems also are exported. The country is still dependent upon imports for machinery, vehicles, fuels, industrial chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and wheat. As a general rule, Brazilian imports exceed exports in volume, but in value the reverse is true. Textile manufacture leads the field of industry while iron and steel production is expanding.

FLAG: The national flag consists of a green rectangle on which a yellow diamond is centered containing a blue sphere with 21 stars representing the Southern Cross, the states, and the Federal District. Across the sphere is a white band bearing the words Ordem e Progresso (Order and Progress).

Pan American Union publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order: Brazil, 10 cents; Visit Brazil, 15 cents; Economic Development in Brazil, 50 cents; Brief History of Music in Brazil, 75 cents; A Statement of the Laws of Brazil, \$5.00; Butantan Institute, 10 cents; Bonifácio, 10 cents; Commodity series: Iron, Coffee, Rubber, Cacao, Petroleum, Sugar, Yerba Mate, Tonka Bean, 10 cents each. ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics, (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions) Per year, \$3.00. Catalog of Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

CHILE





Area: 286,396 sq. miles Population: 5,930,809 Capital: Santiago

Currency: peso=\$.0091 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: September 18,1810 National Hero: Bernardo O'Higgins

National Flower: Copihue

GEOGRAPHY: Chile, lashed by waves, cut by roaring rivers, and studded with mountain peaks, stretches to the southernmost tip of South America. This narrow ribbon of land (nowhere more than 250 miles wide) lies imprisoned between the snow-capped Andean ranges and the Pacific. Under its northern deserts lie the world's largest deposits of nitrate. Caloma, in the desert region known as the Atacama, is one of the few spots on earth where no rain has ever been recorded. Antofagasta is the major port of the nitrate coast.

Middle Chile, from Coquimbo to Concepción, with its fields of growing crops and green pastures, is where most of the Chileans live. Here are concentrated the major cities, the largest and richest farms, and the social life of the country. The Andean ranges, rich in gold, silver, copper, nickel, lead, manganese, and other minerals, reach great heights in the section from Copiapó to Valparaíso.

The Central Valley, with its temperate climate, rapid-flowing rivers, and rich soil, is one of the world's most fertile garden spots. It also yields mineral and forest riches. The land, however, does not provide enough to feed the nation. Many thousands of acres must be irrigated to produce crops, the chief one of which is wheat. Chilean fruits from this area are famous and its grapes and melons are shipped to the United States. Here the making of wine is an established industry with a high reputation.

Patagonia, one of the world's finest sheep-raising regions extending southward to Cape Horn, is a land of virgin forests, strong winds, magnificent mountains, glacier-fed lakes, and fiords. The Chilean lake region is often called the "Switzerland of South America."

South of Puerto Montt there is a maze of channels, flecked with islands, where icy tides make navigation dangerous. Steamers end their run at Punta Arenas, a busy modern port and Chile's southernmost city. Punta Arenas faces the Strait of Magellan, a region of long twilight and sudden blinding storms. South of the mainland lies Tierra del Fuego, part of which belongs to Chile, the rest to Argentina.

Chile has a group of island possessions including Easter Island and the Juan Fernández Islands. One of the latter, Más a Tierra, is better known as Robinson Crusoe Island, because it was here the Scottish buccaneer, Alexander Selkirk, was cast away in 1704. His experiences gave Daniel Defoe the idea for his classical novel.

CULTURE: Chile is a country of virile and energetic people. They are for the most part of Spanish and Araucanian Indian descent, with about 25 per cent of unmixed Spanish ancestry. Few, if any, South American nations have a more homogenous population. This blend of the Spanish conquistador and the warlike Araucanian has produced a people noted for physical strength, endurance, imagination, personal independence, and optimism.

The Araucanians and the Seminoles of Florida have the distinction among all the Indian tribes of the Americas of never having been conquered by force of arms. They were assimilated by contact with the white man's civilization. The Araucanians are concentrated in the Rio Tolten valley, south of Temuco.

After 1850 a small group of Germans began to establish settlements near Valdivia, at Puerto Montt, and at Puerto Varas. Although they now form an insignificant proportion of the total population, they were pioneers who implanted a distinctly German civilization in the South.

Chile today stands on the threshold of a major transformation with the rise of commercial and manufacturing cities such as Santiago, Valparaíso, Concepción, and Valdivia.

The political, economic, and artistic center of the nation is Santiago. Its cultural heritage has been enriched by contributions of eminent foreigners who took up residence there. Learned scholars, both native and foreign, helped build a centralized and effective school system. Chile has contributed much to the field of fine arts. Gabriela Mistral, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1945, has won widespread recognition as a major poet of America. Claudio Arrau is one of the top-ranking pianists in the world.

Chilean architectural culture belongs more to the modern period, dating from the late 1700's. Earthquakes have destroyed most of the examples of early Spanish colonial art.

Picturesque Valparaíso, the first port and second city of Chile, is a bustling city. Gay, beautiful Viña del Mar, with its renowned casino, is a famous seaside resort.

HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT: Pedro de Valdivia took possession of Chile in 1540 in the name of the King of Spain. He founded the city of Santiago in 1541. Almost at once the newcomers were involved in a fierce war with the Araucanian Indians—a war which continued with few interruptions until the second half of the nine-teenth century. The Chileans remained loyal to Spain through the beginning of the nineteenth century. Then the idea of self-government began to take hold. On September 10, 1810, the first national government was proclaimed, in the form of a junta, and the first national congress of Chile met on July 4, 1811. Royalist armies from Peru regained possession of the country, but in 1817, the Argentine patriot San Martín, with the aid of Chilean revolutionaries, defeated the Spaniards. Bernardo O'Higgins became supreme leader of Chile. O'Higgins, called the "father of his country", inaugurated a far-sighted policy of reforms which facilitated the transition from the monarchial to the republican form of government.

Chile's present constitution was adopted in 1925. It provides for a republican form of government with legislative, executive, and judicial branches. The President is elected by direct vote. The National Congress is made up of a Senate and a Chamber of Deputies.

ECONOMY: Chile is predominantly a mineral producing country, with copper and nitrates comprising from 50 to 80 per cent of the value of its exports. The bulk of copper and iron ore exports go to the United States. Chile is attempting to balance its economy by government-developed heavy industries. The industries are based chiefly on local sources of raw materials and on hydroelectric power. Chile imports heavy manufactured goods, industrial raw materials, and foodstuffs. Leading non-mineral exports are beans, rye, lentils, and washed and unwashed wool.

FLAG: The lower half of the Chilean flag is red and the upper half white, with a field of blue in the upper left corner. The five pointed white star in the center of the field may have come originally from the pennants of Chilean Indians.

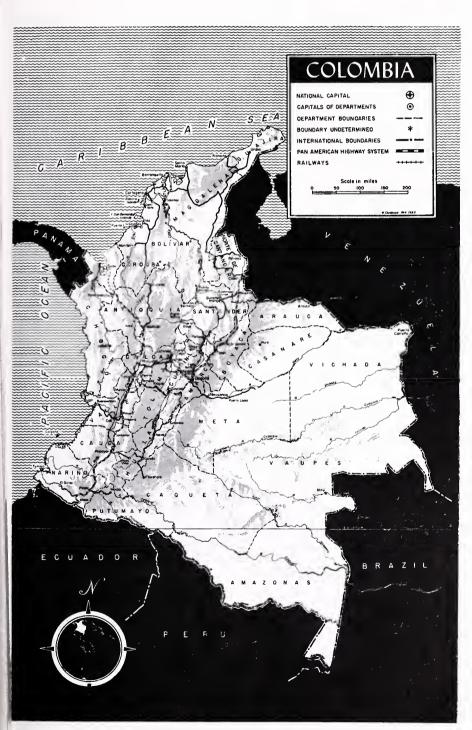
Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order: Chile, 10 cents; O'Higgins, 10 cents; Rural Electrification Cooperatives in Chile, 10 cents; Christ of the Andes, 10 cents; Visit Chile, 15 cents; Iron, 10 cents; Copper, 10 cents.

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COLOMBIA





Area: 439,553 sq. miles Population: 11,477,495

Capital: Bogotá

Currency: Peso = \$.40 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: July 20, 1810 National Hero: Francisco de Paula

Santander

National Flower: Cattleya orchid

Colombia is a country of infinite variety, in its climate, cities and customs. A nation of many resources, it is South America's largest producer of gold and the world's principal source of emeralds. It is one of the world's few platinum-producing countries and ranks second to Venezuela as Latin America's largest petroleum-producing country. It is second only to Brazil in the production of the world's coffee.

GEOGRAPHY: Colombia is made up of coastal lowlands bordering both the Atlantic (Caribbean) and the Pacific; a mountainous west central region, crossed from south to north by three parallel ranges of the Andes, between which are highland valleys; and the oriente, or eastern region, which is divided into the plains or llanos of the north and the selvas or jungle-forest to the south. Extreme variations of climate range from hot and humid in the coastal plains, llanos and selvas to temperate and cold in the highlands.

CULTURE: Before the Spanish conquest, Colombia was inhabited by numerous Indian tribes, the principal ones being the Caribs, who lived in the lowlands bordering the Caribbean, and the Chibchas, who occupied the highland plateaus of the eastern Andes. Remnants of their cultures consist chiefly of manual arts—jewelry, masks and other metal objects. The Bank of the Republic in Bogotá has a famous collection of hand-wrought gold and silver articles which give evidence of a high degree of native artistic design and craftmanship. The population of Colombia is predominently of European and Indian origin.

The venerable capital city of Bogotá in its majestic setting on the broad sabana

(plateau), partially encircled by Andean ranges, represents the essence of Colombian tradition based on Spanish colonial culture. This "Athens of America", as it has been called, with its deep interest in culture and its rich heritage of the colonial period, preserves its architectural landmarks and renowned institutions of learning side by side with its tall, modern buildings. Medellín, second city of the Republic in size and first in economic importance, is an intellectual, artistic, industrial and commercial center. Coffee produced in this region is noted for its flavor. Cali, in the luxuriant Cauca Valley, is Colombia's fastest growing city. The patrician city of Popayán, birthplace of many eminent men, contains priceless examples of colonial art and architecture. Cartagena, strategically placed on a fine natural harbor, was one of the wealthiest centers of colonial trade and the object of repeated attacks by pirates who sailed the Spanish Main centuries ago. Bucaramanga is the center of an important coffee and tobacco growing zone. Gay, modern, cosmopolitan Barranquilla is one of the principal commercial cities of Colombia, as well as an important shipping and transportation center. Cúcuta, birthplace of Colombia's national bero Francisco de Paula Santander, is the center of an important agricultural and livestock zone. The development of the Catatumbo oil fields has been a recent factor in its growth and prosperity. Santa Marta, one of the oldest cities on the South American mainland, still preserves its distinctive colonial architecture featured by the Moorish style. Situated in a great banana-producing region, it is surrounded by high, steep cliffs, with the snowy peaks of the Sierra Nevada as a backdrop. Colombia's principal seaport on the Pacific is Buenaventura.

Colombia is outstanding because of the consistency with which it has maintained a high cultural level throughout its history, and for the unusually large number of cultural and professional men who have devoted themselves to public life. Colombian literature and writing are noted for their classic purity. The architecture closely resembles that of Spain, a distinctive local feature being the simplicity of exterior decoration and construction. Colombia's popular music possesses a wealth of varied and original rhythms, influenced by the forms brought by the Spaniards and by Negro slaves.

HISTORY: This, the only land named for Columbus was not discovered by him but by Alonso de Ojeda who had accompanied Columbus on his second voyage to the New World. Between 1500, when Colombia was discovered, and 1538, when Jiménez de Quesada founded Santa Fe de Bogotá, the territory was widely explored and the first permanent settlements were established. Soon after, Quesada and Sebastián de Belalcázar, another conquistador, received from the Spanish Crown authority to govern the colony. Confusion and civil strife prevailed during the first thirty years and for almost two centuries the colony was subject to recurrent attacks from French, English and Dutch buccaneers. In 1717 Colombia became a viceroyalty. From 1723 to 1739 it was governed as a presidency, but the viceroyalty was reinstated in 1740 just in time for the viceroy to prepare the defense of Cartagena against a powerful attack by the British. Growing unrest and rebellion on the part of the upper-class creoles as well as the common people reached a climax with the communero revolt in 1781. On July 20, 1810 (Independence Day) the creoles, seeking self government, created the Supreme Junta (administrative council) of the New Kingdom of Granada (Colombia). Absolute independence from Spain was proclaimed in 1813. The Spanish reconquered New Granada and reestablished the viceroyalty in 1817. In 1819 the great Venezuelan hero, Simón Bolívar and General Francisco de Paula Santander led their armies over the Andes from Venezuela and won a decisive victory over the Spanish. Then Bolívar's dream of uniting New Granada with Venezuela and Ecuador into one great "Republic of Colombia" was consumated by the Congress of Angostura. This federation was dissolved in 1830 when Venezuela and Ecuador withdrew to establish themselves as sovereign nations. In 1832 a Colombian constitution established a federal form of government. General Santander, the "Champion of Legality", was the first president and he, more than any other, made Colombia a nation, charting its course toward democracy and sound, orderly government. The revolution of 1885 marked the end of the federal system. Since 1886 Colombia has been a unitary or centralized republic, with three main branches of government: Executive, legislative and judicial. Its president is elected by the direct vote. Congress consists of two bouses: The Senate and the Chamber of Representatives.

ECONOMY: The economy of Colombia is one of the most varied and interesting in the world, due chiefly to its geography. There is a diversity of agricultural production and crop cultivation the year round. Cattle raising is one of the principal industries as large areas are suitable for grazing. Vast forest resources covering about 60 to 70 per cent of the total area have scarcely been developed, while the hydroelectric potential is considerable. Colombia produces some five and a half million bags of coffee a year.

Colombia's principal exports are coffee, petroleum, gold, platinum, emeralds and hides. Its chief imports are machinery, automobiles and trucks, textile fibers and finished textiles, chemicals and drugs, iron and steel products.

FLAG: The national flag consists of three stripes--yellow, blue and red, with the yellow occupying the upper half of the flag.

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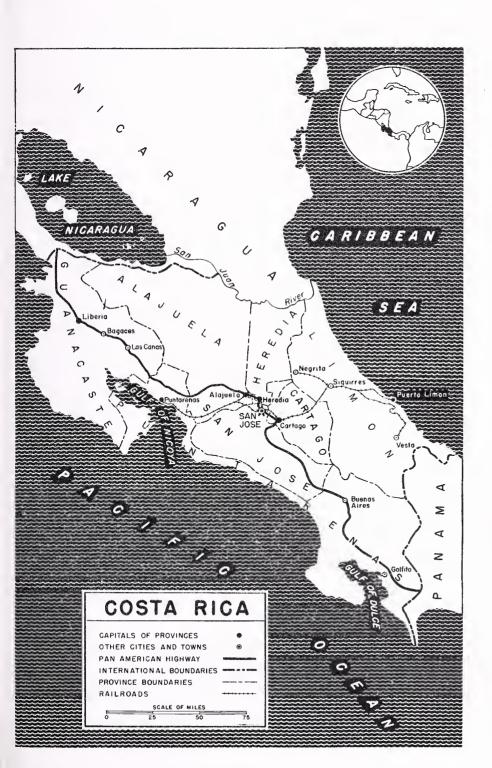
Colombia, 10 cents; Visit Colombia, 15 cents; A Statement of The Laws of Colombia, \$5.00; Commodity Series: Coffee, Petroleum, Tonka Bean, Sugar, Cacao, Rubber, 10 cents each.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Per year, \$3.00.

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COSTA RICA





Area: 23,000 sq. miles Population: 800,875 Capital: San José

Currency: Colón is about \$.1764 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: September 15, 1821 National Hero: Juan Rafael Mora National Flower: Cattleya orchid

Costa Rica (Rich Coast), outstanding for its widespread popular education, boasts that it has more teachers than soldiers. One of the smallest of the Latin American republics in population and area, the country is also proud of its orderly, coherent national

GEOGRAPHY: Costa Rica's three high volcanic ranges vary in altitude, giving climatic variety to a country lying completely within the tropics. Hot rainy lowlands along the Caribbean are ideal for the cultivation of bananas and cacao trees, while in the Pacific coastal region, where it is drier but just as hot, one finds the banana plantations established by the Compañía Bananera de Costa Rica. Costa Rica's extensive forest resources have not been fully tapped. Those that have been developed are in Puntarenas Province. The temperate central plateau, with its grassy dairylands, picturesque villages and age-old forests, is the heart of the nation, containing the majority of the people and producing the best agricultural crops. The soil here is unusually rich because of volcanic ash deposited over the centuries. Costa Rican volcanoes are practically extinct, although Irazú and Poás still issue clouds of vapor. The crater atop Poás, said to be the largest in the world, measures more than a mile in diameter. On a clear day one can see both the Caribbean and the Pacific from its summit. The highest peak in Costa Rica is Chirripo in the southern range.

CULTURE: Costa Rica has a homogeneous population. Ninety per cent of the people in the central area, where more than two thirds of the population is concentrated, are of

unmixed Spanish ancestry. For the country as a whole, about 48 per cent of the people are of pure Spanish blood and 47 per cent have some Indian blood. Only 2 per cent are pure Indian, and 3 per cent are Negro. In the central plateau the majority of farmers operate their own small farms but on the Pacific side there are large properties, a small landed aristocracy and tenant workers. The farmer, a respected member of Costa Rica's thriving middle class, adds a dash of vivid color to the provincial scene by his unique habit of decorating the wheels, body, and yoke of his oxcart with gay, intricate designs. Each province has its own characteristic color. One is impressed by the freedom of discussion among the Costan Ricans, and notes their self-sufficiency, industry and conservativeness. Typical of Costa Rica is its system of public education. It can boast of one of the smallest percentages of illiteracy in all America. The Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences, supervised by the Organization of American States, is located near the white-capped volcano Turrialba. It encourages and advances all agricultural sciences through research and education.

The natives who inhabited the country before the Spaniards came were excellent craftsmen, noted for their gold and jade ornaments, pottery and stone sculpture. The Chorotegas excelled in exquisite pottery and carved jade which showed a Mayan influence. The Borucas, who inhabited the southwest, produced an unusual brown textile, woven so that the designs appeared on one side only, an art which is being revived by their descendents. Costa Rica's peaceful and democratic way of life is exemplified in its literature. A leading type of writing is the realistic "costumbrismo", which focuses upon the everyday life and customs of the peasantry. Though the colonial Spanish influence is evident in the majority of churches and public buildings, San José's Municipal Palace typifies a trend toward the ultramodern. In recent years, international recognition has been bestowed on the painter Francisco Amighetti and the sculptors Juan Manuel Sánchez, Juan Rafael Chacón and Francisco Zuñiga. In music and dance the blending of Indian and Spanish inspiration find its full expression.

The Costa Rican capital, San José, with its varied Spanish colonial and modern architecture, is the center of business, political, and cultural life. It is situated on a plateau abounding in streams, rocky gorges, waterfalls, pine groves and rolling hills. It is a city that has grown outward, not upward, because of the possibility of earthquakes. One of its most outstanding attractions is the Teatro Nacional, reputed to be the most beautiful in Central America. The grassy Sabana (plain) outside of the city is given over to sports grounds and the airfield. On Sunday mornings, dances are held at the airport while soccer or polo matches are held at the Sabana Stadium. San José's industries are tuned to the day-to-day needs of the people. Alajuela, second city of the Republic and center of an important sugar-growing district, is renowned for its exquisite flowers. Cartago, the first capital, is Costa Rica's oldest Spanish city and Heredia, in the principal coffee-growing province, is an important cattle center. Settle by Andalusians, its southern Spanish atmosphere is heightened by red-tiled roofs, iron grillwork at the windows, brilliant gardens and white adobe walls. The busy Caribbean port of Puerto Limón is situated on the site of the Indian village of Cariari, which Columbus discovered on his fourth and last voyage to the New World. The important Pacific seaport of Puntarenas is also a popular seaside resort.

HISTORY: When Columbus discovered Costa Rica in 1502, he sent his brother Bartolomé to explore the region. The Indians, friendly at first, stubbornly resisted later invasions by the Spanish "conquistadores". It was not until 1564 that Juan Vázquez Coronado successfully founded Cartago. Coronado, who advanced the conquest of the region by peaceful means, brought with him colonists of Basque origin and introduced cattle, horses, and swine. He established probably one of the earliest cattle ranches in the Americas. After Coronado's death, Costa Rica was ruled from Guatemala City by the Spanish Captaincy-General and the Audiencia (Spanish court of justice). On September 15, 1821, the independence of the Central American States was declared at Guatemala City, whereupon the Costa Ricans quietly ousted the Spanish governor and declared a separate independence. In 1822 they gave their allegiance to Agustín Iturbide's short-lived Mexican Empire. Upon its failure in 1823, they joined the Federation of Central American States. This federation met with insuperable difficulties, and Costa Rica withdrew from it in 1838, although maintaining a slight relationship until 1848. There have been two major invasions of Costa Rican territory. The first was an attempt by Francisco Morazán, a Honduran, to revive the Union of Central American Republics in 1842. Morazán, after invading the country, proclaimed himself President but was overthrown. Costa Rica later was forced into war when an audacious North American adventurer named William Walker tried to seize the country for himself. Walker was defeated by Costa Rica's national hero, Juan Rafael Mora, who became President of the Republic, and began the transformation and modernization of San José.

Costa Rica has had seven constitutions in all. The present one, which came into force in 1949, abolishes the Army as a permanent institution. Under it the legislative power is vested in a Legislative Assembly. The president, elected directly by the people for a four year term, appoints a Cabinet of eight ministers.

ECONOMY: The Costa Rican economy, highly dependent on foreign trade, is based primarily on agriculture, with virtually everyone dependent, directly or indirectly, upon the raising of either subsistence or export crops. Manufacturing and mining are slightly developed. Coffee, cacao and bananas constitute 90 per cent of all exports. Abacá fiber and sugar are other important export commodities. The principal imports are machinery, textiles, foodstuffs, fuels and drugs.

FLAG: The Costa Rican flag consists of five horizontal stripes, of which the center one of red is the widest; the next two are white, and the outside ones are blue.

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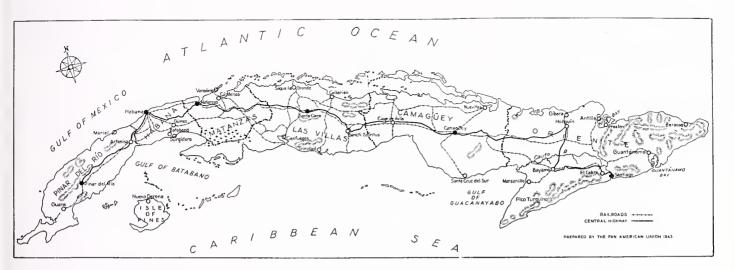
Costa Rica, 10 cents; A Planning Program for the Capital of Costa Rica, 25 cents; San José, 10 cents; Pact of Amity Between the Governments of the Republics of Costa Rica and Nicaragua, 10 cents; Visit Costa Rica, 15 cents; Constitution of Costa Rica, 25 cents; Coffee, 10 cents; Cacao, 10 cents; Rubber, 10 cents.

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CUBA





Area: 44,208 square miles Population: 5,832,851 Capital: Havana

Currency: Peso = \$1.00 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: May 20, 1902

National Hero: José Martí National Flower: Mariposa

Cuba, "Isle of a Hundred Harbors," is a land of sunshine and sociability. Glamorous in atmosphere, it has a wealth of scenic beauty. Cuba is rich also in historical treasures, agricultural products and mineral deposits. One of the first-ranking sugar producers of the world, Cuba also excels in hand-rolled cigars internationally renowned for their flavor and aroma. Its bitumen beds are among the world's richest.

GEOGRAPHY: Cuba, located just inside the tropical zone, is the largest island of the West Indies. Lying at the entrance to the Gulf of Mexico, this long, narrow land consists of three principal mountain ranges; the Sierra de los Organos, Trinidad and Sierra Maestra; turbulent, short rivers and rolling, green valleys. The most rugged mountains lie in the southeastern part of the island, the Oriente. Deep pouch-shaped bays along the irregular coastline make excellent natural harbors. Numerous keys and islets surround the coast, the largest being the beautiful Isle of Pines. This islet, famous for its fruits, especially its grapefruit, avocados, mangoes and pineapples, is said to be the burying place of many a pirate's treasure.

CULTURE: One of the most densely populated of the American republics, Cuba has a population consisting of the descendants of early Spanish colonizers and recent immigrants; some Negroes whose ancestors were brought in as slaves from Africa, and later arrivals from Haiti and Jamaica.

Cuba's contributions to literature are considerable. Among her more representative writers are José Martí, José María de Heredia, Gabriel de la Concepción Valdés and Carlos Loveira. Many contemporary Cuban artists have won international prestige. Two great music traditions--European and African--exist in Cuba. They have developed both independently and as a modern mixture. The better known popular arrangements are the danzón, rumba, conga, son, guajira, and punto.

Premier city of the West Indies, the gay, historical Cuban capital Havana is strikingly picturesque. The largest city and chief port, it is a cosmopolitan blend of native, ancient and modern traditions. Havana's notable landmarks include its harborside forts: Impressive Morro Castle, the fortress of La Punta and ancient La Fuerza. Fine residences, parks, the modern luxury hotel, the Nacional, elaborate club buildings and the monument to the U.S. battleship Maine face the Malecón, a magnificent boulevard skirting the ocean. Along a shaded, crowded avenue, the Prado, are the theaters, clubs, restaurants and shops. Center of the social religious and political life is the Plaza de Armas (Plaza Carlos Manuel Céspedes), appearing much as it did in the colonial days. The church of San Cristóbal is also known as the Columbus Cathedral because for many years it contained bones reputed to be those of

the Discoverer. The cathedral contains many valuable works of art and masterpieces of gold and silver studded with precious stones. Batabanó, original site of Havana, is the sponge capital of the world. The scenic Pinar del Río province is a region of mountain ranges, canyons and beautiful fertile valleys, such as the Valley of Viñales, occupied by sugar plantations and citrus fruit groves. The slopes of the famous Vuelta Abajo in this region produce some of the best known tobacco in the world. There are large asphalt deposits in Mariel and Bahía Honda on the northern coast.

Camaguey, mid-island airline junction, lies in a rich, fertile agricultural region whose wide rolling plains are outstanding for extensive cattle raising, as well as for valuable hardwood forests, important mineral deposits and tropical fruits. Camaguey, known as the "City of Churches," charms one with its twisting streets, old churches, plazas and ancient buildings with their massive walls, grilled windows, overhanging balconies and lofty arched doors. Within the patios of the old mansions one may glimpse huge tinajones (clay jars), a traditional manner of catching rain water. Cuba's only free port, Matanzas, in the beautiful palm-dotted Yumurí Valley, is an important sugar-trading and shipping center. It preserves its old World character, with narrow streets, ancient weathered homes decorated with colored tiles and iron-grilled windows. Close by are the Bellamar Caves, comparable to the Mammoth Caves of Kentucky and the Hermitage of Monserrate. Northeast is the celebrated Blue Beach of Varadero, one of the finest of all American beaches. Modern Santa Clara, one of the busiest cities on the island, is a railroad junction. Cuba's third city, the thriving port of Cienfuegos, is situated on the magnificent 20-mile long bay of Jagua. A charming city, it is noted for its distilleries, and soap, candle, tobacco, brick, tile, cabinet and soft drink factories. In the vicinity are the Hanabanilla Falls, called the Niagara of Cuba, and the Atkins Institution of the Arnold Arboretum, maintained by Harvard University for research and experimentation in tropical plants. Unhurried Trinidad with its unspoiled antiquity has many Moorish-styled old homes with carved ceilings and heavy nail-studded doors. Here colonial dress and customs have been preserved and the mantilla and other articles of dress of Castilian origin are worn today. One of the island's original settlements, Sancti Spíritus, with its ancient humped bridge, is reminiscent of medieval Moorish cities in Spain. It is the very center of the Cuban "Sugar Bowl."

In the high mountainous province of Oriente--region of great mineral wealth, vast untouched forests of rare woods and many sugar mills-- is Las Tunas, scene of a famous battle of the Cuban revolution. The ancient village of Gibara is where Columbus first set foot on Cuban soil. Colorful, mellow Santiago, second city of the Republic, is a historical place of many-hued, red-roofed homes in a sea-and-mountain setting. It is also the site of the home plant of Bacardí, famous rum distillery. Nearby Yara and Baire were two of the chief points at which the patriots raised the standard of Cuban freedom. To the east lie El Caney and San Juan Hill, sites of historical battles.

HISTORY: Cuba, discovered by Columbus in 1492, was colonized by Diego Velázquez. By 1515 he had established seven settlements, including Santiago which served as the capital until 1556. Cuba prospered as a cross-roads of trade, thus attracting the attention of pirates who made repeated attacks on the island during the 16th and 17th centuries. In 1762, when Spain was at war with Great Britain, a British force attacked Havana and forced it to surrender. The island was held by the British until July, 1763 when it was returned to Spain. The struggle for freedom from Spain was waged intermittently for 80 years, taking definite form in 1868 when Carlos Manuel de Céspedes with a group of patriot issued a proclamation of independence from Spain, known as the "Grito de Yara," or the "Cry of Yara." The conflict thus entered the Ten Years War, during which the island was ravaged from end to end. In 1892, a well-organized separatist party headed by the Cuban national hero José Martí began to lay careful plans for a revolution. Conflagration broke out in 1895 in the town of Baire, with the so-called "Grito de Baire," under the leadership of Martí, Máximo Gómez, Antonio Maceo, Calixto García and others. On February 15, 1898, the United States battleship Maine, lying in the harbor to protect American residents in the city, was destroyed by an explosion of unknown origin. The United States then declared war on Spain and within 100 days Cuba, as well as the Philippine Islands and Puerto Rico, had been freed from Spanish domination. There followed a three-year period under a military government established by the United States in Cuba. The Cubans adopted a constitution in 1901. Tomás Estrada Palma took office as the first president the following year. In 1908 yellow fever was well on the way to being completely eradicated, due mainly to the efforts of the Cuban scientist Carlos Finlay, General Leonard Wood, Dr. Walter Reed and Major William C. Gorgas.

The centralized, republican form of government is divided into three branches: Legislative, executive and judicial. Legislative power is exercised by the national Congress, composed of a Senate and a House of Representatives. Executive power is in the hands of the President assisted by a cabinet of ministers.

ECONOMY: Essentially, Cuba is an agricultural country, with sugar and tobacco being the most important crops. Tourist trade is an important source of income. Leading Cuban exports include sugar, molasses, alcohol, leaf tobacco, cigars, bananas, pineapples, sponges, manganese, chrome, iron, cooper and tungsten. The principal imports are cereals, pork, lard, pharmaceuticals and chemicals, cotton and jute, iron and steel manufactures and coal.

FLAG: The Cuban flag consists of three horizontal dark blue stripes separated by two white stripes; on the side next to the flag-staff is an equilateral triangle in red with a white star in its center.

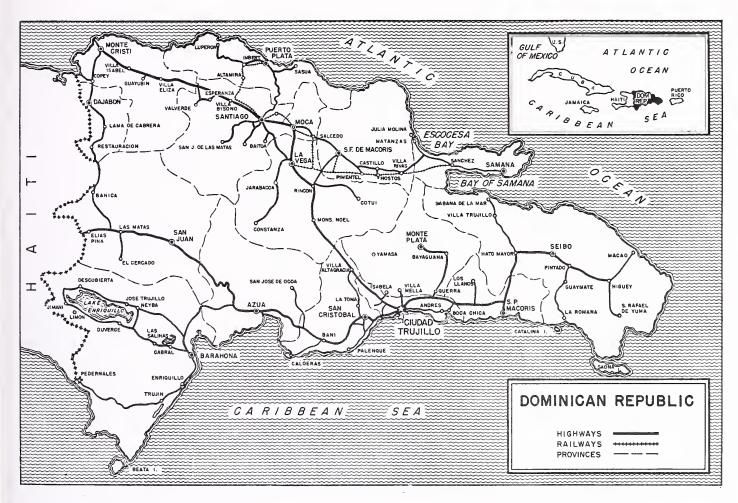
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Cuba, 10 cents; The Soils of Cuba, \$5.00; Sugar, 10 cents; José Martí, 10 cents.

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INTRODUCTION TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC





Area: 19,332 square miles Population: 2,135,872 Capital: Ciudad Trujillo Currency: 1 peso = \$1.00 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: February 27, 1844 National Hero: Juan Pablo Duarte

National Tree: Mahogany

The Dominican Republic, discovered by Columbus in 1492, is the oldest and yet one of the most modern of the Caribbean nations. It was the cradle of Spanish American civilization in the 15th and early 16th centuries, the point of departure for explorers, conquerors and colonizers. Today its capital, Ciudad Trujillo, is one of the cleanest, most alert and materially progressive cities in the tropics.

GEOGRAPHY: The Dominican Republic forms the eastern part of the island which in the time of Columbus was named Hispaniola. It lies midway among the tropical Antilles. Four almost parallel mountain ranges, covered with thick vegetation, cross the country from east to west. The largest, the Cordillera Central, divides the republic into almost equal parts. The highest peak in the West Indies, Pico Trujillo, is in this range. In the north is the Cordillera Septentrional and in the south are the Sierra Neiba and the Sierra de Bahoruco, famous as the scene of an important Indian rebellion against Spain. The Valley of the Cibao, between the Cordillera Central and the Cordillera Septentrional, is the largest and most important valley. The Vega Real (Royal Plain), often called the "Garden of the Antilles," is the island granary, producing fruits, vegetables and sugar cane, while its grassy savannas offer

excellent pasturage. Most of the principal cities are located on the southern coastal plain. The humid eastern section of this region contains large forests and savannas. Many small islands dot the Dominican coast.

CULTURE: From the earliest times, the Dominican Republic has been a crossroads for migrations of people from South and Central America and later from Europe. Today, the foreign groups include Spaniards, Englishmen, Haitians, Puerto Ricans, several colonies of European and Chinese refugees and North Americans.

Cultural life is an important concern of the Dominicans. The National Museum contains one of the best pre-Columbian archaeological collections in the Antilles, in addition to paintings which range from colonial times to the present day. There are two outstanding figures in the Dominican art world, Jaime Colson and Darío Suro. Dominican music is a composite of the European and the African. Today, the tendency is to emphasize genuinely Dominican themes in both music and dance rather than to copy or adapt foreign forms.

The Dominican capital, Ciudad Trujillo, established in 1496 by Bartolomé Colón, Columbus' brother, was originally called Santo Domingo de Guzman but later was renamed for President Trujillo. There is a striking contrast between Old World charm and modernistic steel and concrete to be found throughout the city. Its cathedral, the oldest in the Americas, is said to contain the bones of Columbus. The ancient fortresslike castle of Diego Colón, El Alcázar de Colón, stands among beautiful gardens beside the broad River Ozama. The city also contains the first seat of higher learning in the New World, the University of Santo Domingo, built in 1538; the first hospital in the New World, San Nicolás de Bari, and the first convent, the Convent of San Francisco. These historical old buildings, which survived the furious hurricane of 1930, vie with the modern government and business buildings of native stone and hardwood. Gleaming white, luxurious Hotel Jaragua, overlooking the blue Caribbean, is one of the show places of the West Indies. The Parque Infantil Ramfis is notable for its equipment, playgrounds, pool and gardens designed especially for children. One of the most significant lighthouses in the world is being constructed on the high ground across the River Ozama from the capital. This, the Columbus Memorial Lighthouse, designed in the form of a recumbent cross, eventually will contain Culumbus' tomb. This spectacular monument will serve as a guide to navigators by sea and air. The republic's second city and leading center in the Valley of Cibao is Santiago. This city, built on a high bluff on the Rio Yaque del Norte, was founded in 1500 and still retains its distinctive aristocratic air. Many of its churches and public buildings were destroyed by an earthquake and fire and had to be rebuilt. Today it is one of the republic's most modern cities. The Dominican Republic has many seaports including La Romana, San Pedro de Macorís, Sánchez, Puerto Plata and Monte Cristi. Puerto Plata was founded by Columbus in 1503.

HISTORY: The Dominican Republic is successor to colonial Santo Domingo. Columbus on his second voyage established the fort of Santo Tomás de Jánico in the Vega Real valley. Here the first battle with the Indians occurred. In 1496 Columbus sailed back to Spain, leaving his brother Bartolomé Colón as governor of the colony. Later, on Columbus' return, matters got out of hand in the colony and Spain sent Francisco de Bobadilla to straighten them out. Bobadilla imprisoned Columbus, his brother, and son Diego, and sent them to Spain. In 1509, Diego Colón returned to the island as governor. Santo Domingo flourished until the latter part of the 16th century. Its Audiencia Real (royal court) had jurisdiction over all the Antilles. Meanwhile, French power grew in the western part of the island. In 1795, by the Treaty of Basel, Spain ceded to France the eastern part of the island. When Toussaint L'Ouverture gained absolute control of the French colony of Saint-Domingue (Haiti), he invaded the former Spanish colony and the whole island was united under him. In 1809 the Dominicans rose in revolt and with British aid captured the city of Santo Domingo and re-established Spanish rule. In 1821 the Dominicans deported the Spanish governor and proclaimed their independence. In 1822, the Haitians, under President Boyer, invaded the Dominican Republic and ruled there for 22 years. On February 27, 1844, the Dominicans, led by their national hero Juan Pablo Duarte and others, revolted and proclaimed again their independence. In 1857, Spain annexed the country at the request of Dominican leaders, but poor administration resulted in a revolt leading to the separation of the country from Spain in 1865. Life was frequently disturbed by revolutions and financial troubles. In 1905 the United States was asked to take charge of the custom house. In 1916 U.S. Marines landed to guard the American Legation and protect the collector general because of the unsettled internal condition of the country. On November 29 of the same year, the U.S. took full control of the country and proclaimed a military regime. A provisional government was installed in 1922 and the U.S. troops were withdrawn in 1924. The Trujillo-Itull Treaty of 1941 terminated the U.S. customs receivership.

Under the present Constitution the representative government of the Dominican Republic is divided into three branches -- legislative, executive and judicial. Legislative powers are exercised by the Congress of the Republic composed of a Senate and Chamber of Deputies. Executive power is vested in the President assisted by a Cabinet composed of secretaries of state and three special members.

ECONOMY: The Dominican Republic is basically an agricultural country. Sugar, cacao and coffee are the most important export crops. Manufacturing industries are those connected with agriculture, stock raising and forestry. Foreign trade is of great importance. Principal exports are sugar, cacao, coffee, beef, molasses, corn and tobacco leaf. Leading imports are textiles, food, beverages, iron and steel manufactures, apparatus and vehicles, chemical products, gasoline, paper and its products.

FLAG: The Dominican flag is divided into four sections separated by a white cross. The upper left section is dark blue, the lower left is red. On the right side of the cross the colors are reversed. The coat-of-arms is placed in the center of the cross.

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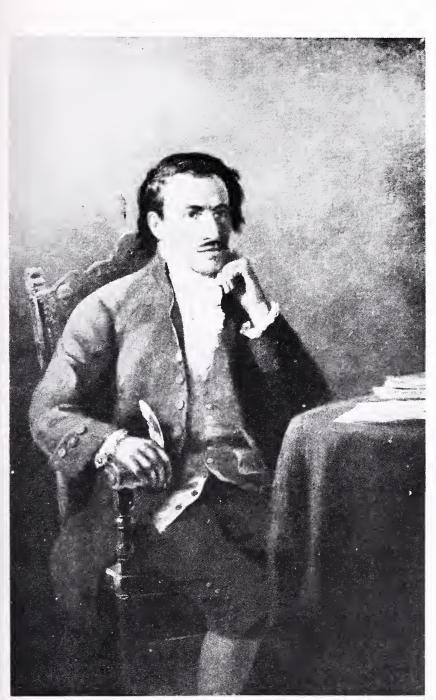
Dominican Republic, 10 cents; Music and Musicians of the Dominican Republic, \$1.25; Constitution of the Dominican Republic, 25 cents; A Statement of the Laws of the Dominican Republic, \$5.00; Coffee, 10 cents; Sugar, 10 cents; Cacao, 10 cents.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions).

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ECUADOR





Eugenio de Santa Cruz y Espejo, national hero of Ecuador

Area: 104,506 square miles Population: 3,202,757

Capital: Quito

Currency: Sucre = \$.0660 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: August 10, 1809 National Hero: Eugenio Espejo National Tree: Cinchona tree

Ecuador, crossed by the Equator, is a country of considerable scenic charms. Gardenlike highland towns backed by snow-capped volcanoes, tropical plantations, lush jungles, windswept páramos, all are impressive. It has a wealth of cacao, rice and banana plantations, valuable hardwood forests and important oilfields. Ecuador's colonial art has been its richest heritage. The export of decorative objects for churches was once its leading industry. Today the most popularly-known Ecuadorean product is the famous "Panama" or toquilla straw hat--so named because travelers from the United States first saw them for sale in Panama.

GEOGRAPHY: The three sections of Ecuador present a striking contrast. Along the Pacific coast are the productive broad tropical plains consisting of rice fields, cacao and sugar cane plantations and lush jungle and in the south arid desert. The Oriente, a steaming jungle believed to be rich in oil, covers the eastern slope of the Andes and the Amazon basin. In the highlands are the cool, inter-Andean valleys, bleak windswept plateaus or páramos and numerous snowy volcanic peaks. Two parallel ranges of the Andes cross the country from north to south with cross ranges forming fertile valleys. Some of the mountain peaks are among the highest in the continent. Cotopaxi is the highest active volcano in the world; Chimborazo is Ecuador's majestic giant. Ecuador also possesses the Colón Archipelago or Galapagos Islands, a former pirate retreat, which lie on the Equator some 600 miles west of the mainland.

CULTURE: The Ecuadorean population is composed of the descendents of the Spanish conquerors and of various Indian tribes such as the Caras, Incas, Cañari and Chibchas, with a sprinkling of Negroes in some coastal sections. Most of the

people live in the highland area. Many of the frugal, humble Indian farmers preserve the ancient forms of land tenure. The proud, untamed Jívaro Indians of the Oriente are noted hunters who tip their spears and darts with a poisonous extract known as curare. They also produce this drug which has great medicinal value for use in other countries.

Ecuadorean culture of the colonial period shows a strong religious influence. Quito's churches are famous for their exquisitely wrought wood and stone sculpture as well as elaborately carved and painted interiors, many of which are covered with gold leaf. Ecuador has some outstanding examples of colonial architecture. The Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana guides many of the country's artistic and intellectual activities today. Ecuador has produced many excellent writers. Both folk and popular music blend the European and American-Indian traditions.

Progressive Guayaquil, site of the historic meeting between Simón Bolívar and José San Martín in 1822, is a busy seaport, the largest city and commercial hub of the country. Its broad avenues, bordered by arcades and buildings with overhanging balconies, its plazas and sidewalk cafes, its market overflowing with tropical produce, city blocks spread with cacao drying in the sun, give it a noisy, merry atmosphere. On the city's outskirts are great haciendas with huge cattle corrals and orange groves as well as simple bamboo or cane stalk huts. The agricultural and stockraising city of Riobamba is famous for its rug-weaving, liquors, textiles and dairy products. The "garden city," Ambato, a manufacturing town for flour, woolens, leather, rubber goods and textiles, is a popular resort because of its climate, luxuriant vegetation and majestic views of the mountains. It is the birthplace of Juan Montalvo, one of Latin America's greatest writers. Otavalo is famous for its authentic, colorful Indian fair and weaving industry.

Ancient, fascinating Quito, capital of Ecuador, is located almost on the Equator. It lies in a deep hollow at the foot of the volcano Pichincha, encircled by towering Andean peaks. Nearby General Antonio Sucre defeated the Spanish royalists to gain Ecuador's freedom. Quito is thought to have been the center of the kingdom of Quitu, which was conquered about A.D. 1100 by the Caras, who in turn were overthrown by the Incas. One of the two Inca capitals at the time of the Spanish conquest, it later became a center of colonial art where Indian craftsmanship blended with the art and architecture of Spain. Picturesque are its inclined cobbled streets with overhanging balconies and colorful markets teeming with Indians displaying their wares. Gracious Cuenca, set in a fertile basin, is the center of one of Ecuador's chief industries, the making of toquilla or "Panama" hats.

HISTORY: Ecuador, dominated at various periods by the Chibcha, Chimu, Quitu and Cara Indian nations, was conquered by the Incas in the late 15th century. War between two brothers who inherited the Inca empire weakened the country and facilitated its conquest by the Spanish. In 1526 Francisco Pizarro landed on the coast of present-day Ecuador. Toward the end of 1533 the Spanish executed Atahualpa, last of the Inca emperors. In 1534 Sebastián de Belalcázar established the town San Francisco de Quito on the site of Atahualpa's capital. Quito prospered and in 1563 became the seat of a Royal Audiencia or governing council. At first part of the Viceroyalty of Peru, it later became part of the Viceroyalty of New Granada, remaining thus until independence. The spirit of revolt asserted itself in a series of rebellions and a continual state of turmoil which finally took concrete form under the leadership of Eugenio Espejo, Ecuador's revered national hero. In his polished political writings Espejo pointed the way to freedom and exerted a profound influence on leaders of the South American revolutionary movement in Venezuela and Colombia. On August 10, 1809 the President of the Audiencia was imprisoned by the revolutionists and a governing council was set up. The Spanish royalists, however, aided by troops from the other colonies, again siezed power and restored their rule. Nevertheless the efforts of the Ecuadorean patriots gained momentum. A revolt beginning in Guayaguil on October 9, 1820 was the turning point in the struggle for freedom. Simón Bolívar espoused Ecuador's cause as part of his plan for the emancipation of all South America. Later, on May 24, 1822, the Venezuelan General Antonio José de Sucre won the decisive victory on the slopes of Mt. Pichincha which assured Ecuador's freedom from Spain. Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela formed a single republic called Greater Colombia, but the confederation was short-lived. In 1830 Ecuador declared its independence, adopted a national constitution and elected General Flores President. Vicente Rocafuerte, Gabriel García Moreno, Leonidas Plaza and Eloy Alfaro, men of capacity and vision, are among the leaders who devoted themselves to the development of Ecuador.

The Ecuadorean government is divided into three branches--legislative, executive and judicial. In addition there is a Council of State which the President consults in important matters. It represents Congress when the latter is in recess. Congress is composed of the Senate and a Chamber of Deputies. The President and Vice President are elected by direct secret ballot.

ECONOMY: Ecuador is primarily an agricultural country. Its forests yield such strategic materials as balsa, rubber, cinchonasource of quinine-- and kapok. Manufacturing, while not extensive, is extremely varied. Gold is mined in El Oro and Manabí. It is thought that rich mineral deposits exist in the Oriente. Petroleum production is an up-and-coming development. Ecuador's principal exports are rice, cacao, coffee, toquilla straw hats, gold, bananas, tagua, petroleum and palm nuts. Leading imports are machinery, automobiles, foodstuffs, tires and tubes, flour and other manufactures.

FLAG: The Ecuadorean flag consists of three horizontal stripes in yellow, blue and red. The top stripe in yellow is the width of the other two combined. The coat-of-arms appears in the center, against the yellow and blue stripes.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Information Desk or by mail order:

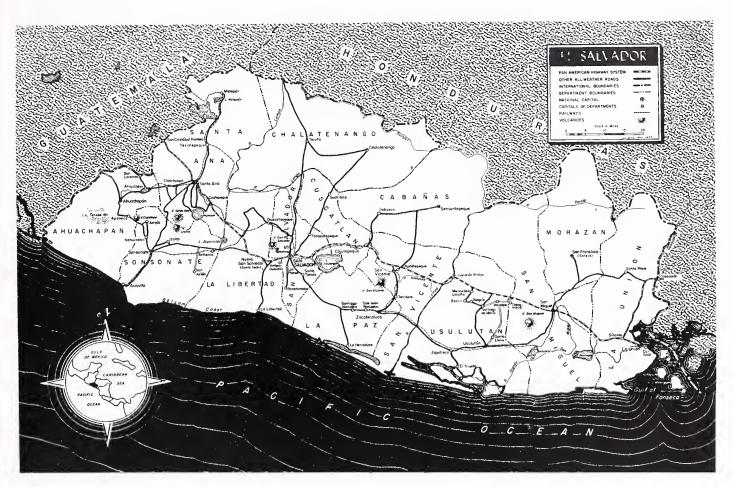
Ecuador, 10 cents; A statement of the Laws of Ecuador, \$3.00; Visit Ecuador, 15 cents; Tagua, 10 cents; Sugar, 10 cents; Cacao, 10 cents.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Per year \$3.00.

Catalog of Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

EL SALVADOR





Area: 12,792

Population: 1,855,917 Capital: San Salvador

Currency: Colon = to \$.40 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: September 15, 1821 National Hero: José Matías Delgado National Flower: Coffee Blossom

El Salvador, smallest of the Central American republics, is the largest coffee exporter of them all; it ranks third among the world's great coffee nations. It is the only Central American country which has a frontage on one ocean only--the Pacific. One of its interesting features is the volcano Izalco, often called the "Lighthouse of the Pacific" because the smoke and flames of its regular eruptions serve as a navigation beacon for ships at sea. El Salvador's famous Balsam Coast, located between Acajutla and La Libertad, takes its name from a special variety of balsam tree found nowhere else in the world. Misnamed "balsam of Peru", this tree produces a valuable medicine and perfume base.

GEOGRAPHY: El Salvador, a land of mountains, hills and upland plains, has two mountain ranges crossing it from west to east. A chain of 14 volcanic peaks stand side by side along the seacoast. Between this range and the Pacific is a narrow, flat strip of land which produces sugar cane. A semi-tropical plateau region, broken by numerous fertile river valleys, lies between the coastal range and the mountain chain along the northern border. Savannas of the Lempa Valley are used chiefly for the grazing of cattle. The land is elevated and hilly in the central and western portions of the plateau but eastward it sinks gradually into tropical lowlands which produce cotton and henequen. Coffee plantations, the economic mainstay of El Salvador, are on the temperate fertile mountain slopes

of the upland area east of the Lempa River as well as in the relatively high western part of the country between San Salvador and the Guatemalan border. In the volcanic desert near Ahuachapán small cracks in the ground emit steam and sulphuric vapors which wind and twist into weird and fantastic shapes; and rumbling geysers, bubbling wells of mud and multicolored soils, give the impression of a veritable inferno. The largest Salvadorean lake, Ilopango, occupies an ancient volcanic crater. Modern botels and clubs alternating with Indian fishing villages dot its shoreline. Volcanic action thrust up from its depths a 150-foot jagged, black rock called La Muela (The Molar) because of its resemblance to a huge molar tooth. Lake Güija, which drains into the Lempa River, is of special interest to archaeologists because of the ancient ruins located on both its shores and on its islands.

CULTURE: El Salvador can claim a share in one of the greatest pre-Hispanic civilizations, the Mayan. Volcanic asb has preserved interesting relics of this past culture. One of the important tribes which inhabited what is now Salvadorean territory was the Pipils, whose culture indicates that they were probably related to the Toltecs and Aztecs of Mexico. The present day population is of Spanish and Indian descent. A few of the Indians, notably the Panchos from Panchimalco, the Izalcos and a tribe near the volcano of San Miguel, proudly retain their old traditions and dress. The energetic Salvadoreans have a great love for the soil. Consequently, a familiar pattern throughout the land is one of many small holdings intensively cultivated.

The Spanish colonial architecture is almost entirely religious, of simple charm, good proportions and vigorous design. Interesting characteristics developed as a result of earthquakes are the low roofs and solid, massive walls.

El Salvador's modern capital, San Salvador, situated in the Valle de las Hamacas (Valley of the Hammocks), is laid out in the general form of a cross. In the belltower of the oldest Salvadorean church, La Merced, is the bell with which the republic's national hero, Father Delgado, announced his first effort to free his people. Antiguo Cuscatlán, on the outskirts of town, is a quiet village which in pre-Spanish days was the site of the Pipil capital. Nearby, at the San Andrés hacienda, is the most recently discovered Maya ruin. Santa Tecla is situated in an idyllic valley of large flourishing coffee plantations. Above the town are the laboratories of the Coffee Grower's Association, where all phases of coffee growing are studied. Nearby is the inactive volcano San Salvador, which has on its crater floor a perfect little cone formed by an eruption in 1917. Santa Ana, second to the capital as a business center, lies in a beautiful valley almost surrounded by mountains. Its cathedral is one of El Salvador's finest. Picturesque San Vincente, at the base of the 7,000-foot volcano of the same name, is a historically colorful old colonial town which today is an important commercial center in a sugar, cacao and cereal-producing region. It has been the site of the national capital and of the national university for short periods. Zacatecoluca, center of a rich agricultural region, is the birthplace of the Salvadorean patriot, José Simeón Cañas, who fought for and secured the freedom of the slaves of Central America 40 years before Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. Cojutepeque, which has twice served as the national capital, is a large cotton and sugar-producing center. Sonsonate, with its beautiful colonial church of El Pilar, its cathedral with its 17 cupolas of all sizes and its early colonial shrine of San Antonio, is chiefly active in cattle raising and extracting balsam from the trees along the coast. El Salvador has three seaport towns of importance, the leading one being La Unión. The second most important port, La Libertad, is an enterprising commercial section with numerous sugar refineries, distilleries, sawmills and coffee plantations. Acajutla, a port serving the western and central regions, is also the country's most popular seashore resort.

HISTORY: The Spanish conquistador Pedro de Alvarado arrived in El Salvador in 1524, defeated the Indians, and in April 1525, founded the city of San Salvador de Cuscatlán. In 1542, the colony was placed under the Captaincy-General of Guatemala, along with what are now the republics of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and the Mexican state of Chiapas. The outstanding leader in the independence movement was Father José Matías Delgado, who in November 1811 led an unsuccessful revolt. A second unsuccessful attempt was made in 1814. In 1821, the Captaincy-General of Guatemala declared its independence from Spain and voted to unite the Central American provinces with Mexico. El Salvador, led by Father Delgado, resisted the incorporation and even looked to the United States for adoption, a plan turned down by the latter. The province was finally compelled to join the Mexican Empire, which, however, soon fell. El Salvador published its constitution on June 12, 1824, the first independent constitution adopted in Central America, and in November of the same year the constitution of the Federation of Central America was promulgated. In 1834 the Federation's capital was transferred to San Salvador in order to achieve a stronger position through a more central location, but the Federation soon collapsed. In 1841 El Salvador's national assembly formally proclaimed its separation from the union.

The constitution of 1950 declares El Salvador to be a democratic and representative republic. The government is divided into three branches: Legislative, executive and judicial. Sole legislative power is vested in the one-chamber Legislative Assembly. Executive power is vested in the President, elected by direct popular vote, and his ministers. When the popular vote does not result in an absolute majority, the Legislative Assembly elects one of the two candidates receiving the largest number of votes.

ECONOMY: Agriculture is the foundation of Salvadorean economy. Manufacturing and mining are carried on to only a limited extent. Chief local industry is that of cotton textile manufacture, considered to be one of the most efficient in Latin America. Foreign trade is a matter of vital concern to the country's economy. Principal exports are coffee, oils--including vegetable oils, cotton and cotton fabrics, balsam, gold, hemp products, rice, silver, salt and indigo. Leading imports are machinery, textiles, vehicles, iron and steel manufactures, mineral, combustible and lubricating oils, cereals, pharmaceuticals, lime, cement and sulphur, paper manufactures, chemical products, tobacco and live animals.

FLAG: The Salvadorean flag consists of two horizontal blue stripes separated by a white one; in the center of the white band is the national coat of arms.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order: El Salvador, 10 cents; Visit El Salvador, 15 cents; Constitution of the Republic of El Salvador, 25 cents; Coffee, 10 cents. ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Catalog of the Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

GUATEMALA





Area: 50,647 square miles Population: 3,011,708 Capital: Guatemala City Currency: Quetzal = \$1.00 U.S.

Language: Spanish National Holiday:

September 15, 1821

National Hero:

Justo Rufino Barrios National Flower:

White Nun Orchid

Guatemala, a land of still smoking volcanoes and occasional earthquakes, has a rich Mayan background. It is famous for the variety and quality of its textiles, bananas, coffee and chicle. Its cities are a study in contrast: Clean, modern Guatemala City, with its first class shops and bright cafés; beautiful, historic Antigua, treasure house of Spanish colonial art; and Chichicastenango, picturesque Indian highland village. Its natural beauties include volcano-sentineled Lake Atitlán, forest-lined Lake Izabal and Río Dulce, one of the most beautiful stretches of water in the world.

GEOGRAPHY: Guatemala can be divided into two geographical areas: The tropical lowlands on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and in the Department of Petén, and the temperate highlands and mountains that stretch northwest to southeast, covering two-thirds of the country. The fertile Pacific region produces the best beef and grows much of the native cotton, known as "criollo," which is exceptionally white and strong. Sugar cane, bananas, pineapples and other tropical fruits flourish here. There is a rather abrupt rise to the volcanic mountain

range of the Sierra Madre. Some of Guatemala's 33 volcanoes--Tajumulco, Tacaná, Santa María, Agua, Fuego and Acatenanga--are among the highest peaks in Central America. Fuego and Santa María are still active. The highland region, consisting of valleys enclosed by mountains, is the site of many important towns. The land slopes down from the Sierra Madre to the Atlantic coastlands. El Petén lies to the north--a dense jungle plateau, relatively undeveloped, unknown and sparsely populated. Chicle, basis of chewing gum, is produced here and is flown to the chief shipping center of Puerto Barrios. This jungle is a rich source of such trees as cedar, mahogany, ebony, walnut and wild rubber.

CULTURE: The people of Guatemala are of Spanish and Indian ancestry. The Guatemalan Indian is dignified, honest, proud of his history, and in many ways true to his ancient customs. The native costumes, which give so much color to the Guatemalan scene, vary-each village has its own distinctive color combinations, weave and style. Many of the designs and colors have reference to old Maya symbolism. As a rule, women wear a loose huipil or blouse, with an extra huipil or perraje (shawl) as a wrap; a refajo (skirt) is worn either wrapped tight or gathered; a faja (belt) is wrapped around the waist; cintas or tocoyales (headbands) are wrapped around the head in various ways. The men wear coats that are usually short and stiff, sometimes embroidered or ornamented by woven patterns, braid, tape, buttons, fringes and pockets. Trousers are long or short, and slit woolen trousers are often worn over cotton ones.

The bustling, modern capital of Guatemala City retains a Spanish colonial flavor in its churches and older residential sections. Its Museum of Archeology and Ethnology possesses many beautiful examples of Maya art. A distinctive feature of life in the capital is the markets. The Indians travel for miles not only to buy and sell but also to mingle with the crowds and talk with acquaintances. The unique city of Antigua, the ancient Spanish colonial capital, surrounded by beautiful coffee plantations, contains many priceless examples of colonial art. Many of the original buildings destroyed by earthquakes, have been restored. Two famous old houses have been restored with great attention to exact details: The Popenoe house and the Casa de las Campanas. Modern Antigua is noted for its pottery and ironwork, as well as for its fruit and vegetable produce, especially castor beans. San Antonio Aguas Calientes, a nearby village, produces Guatemala's finest weaving. Esquipulas, in a scenic valley of the same name, contains in its church sanctuary the famous statue of the Black Christ, a shrine which attracts many pilgrims from afar. Quiriguá is the site of the only easily accessible Maya ruins. Maya ruins are found also at Uaxactún, Tikal and Chaculá. Cobán, an industrial center of considerable importance, is surrounded by plantations of coffee, tea, cacao and vanilla. It lies in a potentially rich field for archeologists. Beautiful examples of Maya art have been recovered from pools and caves nearby. Modern Quezaltenango, the republics's second city, retains much of its colonial atmosphere. This industrial and trading center lies at the foot of Santa María--a volcano held sacred by the Indians who conduct mysterious rites at its summit. Cantel is noted for its large mechanized textile factory. Tiquisate is the center of the United Fruit Company's banana plantation development. Huehuetenango, a colorful town in the magnificent Cuchumatanes Mountains, is the chief trading center for dozens of villages. It is the heart of a little explored region rich in lead, silver and copper. Puerto Barrios, on the Atlantic coast, is Guatemala's chief port.

HISTORY: Pedro de Alvarado, conquerer of Guatemala, established the first capital at the old Indian city of Iximché in 1524. This the Spanish called Santiago de los Caballeros de Guatemala. When Alvarado died in 1541, his widow doña Beatriz called the municipal officials together and ordered them to name her as his successor. She became the only women ever to head a country in continental America in her own right. Soon after this an earthquake and flood completely destroyed the town. The few survivors moved the capital to the site now known as Antigua. Memorable earthquakes and volcanic eruptions plagued the city and when it was destroyed in 1773, the survivors established the present capital, Guatemala City. On September 15, 1821 Guatemala declared its independence from Spain. There followed a brief period of annexation to the newly-formed Mexican Empire under the rule of Agustín de Iturbide. In 1823, when Mexico became a Republic, Guatemala chose its own form of government. However, on July 1 of that year, Guatemala became part of the United Provinces of Central America. When the Federation collapsed in 1839, Guatemala formed an independent government. In 1847 Guatemala became a republic. Justo Rufino Barrios, who has been called the "Reformer" and Guatemala's Lincoln, became president in 1873. He brought to an end the economic and political influence of the Church, promoted education and communications, encouraged agricultural development and granted freedom of worship to all religions.

Guatemala under the present constitution is declared to be a democratic and representative republic. Its one-chamber legislative body consists of deputies elected by direct vote of the people. The President who also is elected by direct vote of the people is assisted by a Cabinet of eleven Ministers.

ECONOMY: Guatemala's national economy is largely based on agriculture. Mining has not been developed on a large scale. Manufacturing industry is concentrated chiefly in the processing of agricultural products, principally textiles and leather. Leading imports are machinery, textiles, petroleum and its by-products, foodstuffs, iron and steel manufactures and clothing. The principal exports are coffee, bananas, chicle, abacá and timber.

FLAG: The Guatemalan flag consists of three vertical stripes of equal width, a bright blue stripe on either side of a white one which bears the national coat of arms.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order:

Guatemala, 10 cents; Guatemala City, 10 cents; The Mayas, 10 cents; Housing in Guatemala, 50 cents; A Statement of the Laws of Guatemala, \$3.00. Coffee, 10 cents; Rubber, 10 cents.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Per year, \$3.00.

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INTRODUCTION TO HAITI





Area: 10,700 square miles Population: 3,097,220 Capital: Port-au-Prince Currency: Gourde=\$.20 U.S. Language: French

Independence Day: January 1, 1804 National Hero: Jean Jacques Dessalines

Sun-drenched Haiti, truly a land of tropical splendor, is the world's first Negro republic and the only French-speaking republic in the Americas. Haitians who became leaders in their own country's struggle for liberty fought with Washington's army for North American independence. Haitian independence marked the first successful revolt against European colonial rule in Latin America. GEOGRAPHY: Haiti, an Indian name meaning mountainous land, occupies the western third of the island of Hispaniola which it shares with the Dominican Republic. Two mountainous peninsulas stretch westward like the claws of a giant crab, partially

enclosing the Gulf of Gonâve. One mountain range, including groups known as La Hotte and La Selle, extends from east to west along the lower peninsula. Two other ranges stretch from southeast to northeast across the mainland and northern peninsula. Morne La Selle, the highest peak, is in the southeast. There are four important plains: The North Plain, along the northern coast between the mountains and the sea; the Central Plain, bordering the Dominican Republic, and the Artibonite and Cul-de-Sac Plains, which extend eastward from the Gulf of Gonâve. Coffee plantations spread over the moist foothills and the lowlands are green with seas of sugar cane.

CULTURE: The Haitian population is 90 per cent Negro and ten per cent mulatto-of French and Negro ancestry-making this the only Negro republic in the Western Hemisphere and one of three Negro states in the world. The Haitian people have natural pride and assurance based on solid national culture. Their gay, exuberant attitude toward life adds immeasurably to Haiti's charm.

Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital, is a city of contrasts. There is the magnificent National Palace, the ultra-modern buildings and pavilions along the waterfront, many of which are decorated with spectacular Haitian designs, the ancient Iron Market with its four Moorish-style turrets, splendid flower-bedecked residences and the poorer homes of the central district. The capital's Museum of Ethnology, with its fascinating Voodoo Section, is an outstanding display. The city's two main plazas, the Champ de Mars and the Place de l'Indépendence, are the centers for community affairs. Smaller, modern, progressive towns are Jacmel and Aux Cayes on the southern coast and St. Marc and Gonaïves, where Dessalines proclaimed Haiti's independence in 1804, on the west coast. Cap Haïtien is the republic's second city. It was the capital of colonial Haiti and later the seat of Henri Christophe's Kingdom. On the picturesque waterfront freighters load coffee, sisal and bananas. From the nearby village of Milot one can see the remains of Christophe's grand pleasure palace, Sans Souci, and his mighty fortress, La Citadelle Laferrière. Les Cayes is the chief commercial center and seaport of southern Haiti.

Haitian handicrafts include a wide variety of artistic and useful articles made chiefly from mahogany, sisal and straw. The unique art of Haiti is based on a combination of French and African artistic traditions. French influence dominates upper-class culture and tastes in literature, cuisine and fashions. However, the Haitians have created a rich cultural and intellectual life of their own. In the flowering of the primitive art movement of the past decade, the paintings of Hector Hyppolite and Philomé Obin, in particular, have won wide recognition.

HISTORY: Haiti, discovered by Columbus in 1492, was ruled originally by Spain. Subsequently it was acquired and governed as a French possession for more than 100 years. The French Revolution in 1789 had repercussions in Haiti which resulted in the destruction of much life and property. An extraordinary person, Toussaint L'Ouverture, appeared on the scene. He was a former slave, who gradually rose in rank until he became a general in the French Army and Governor of Saint Domingue (Haiti). To break Toussaint's power Napoleon organized a powerful expedition under the command of his brother-in-law, General Leclerc. After many fierce battles, Touss aint was treacherously lured into a trap, captured and sent to France where he died a prisoner. Two Haitian generals formerly in the French Army carried on the fight; the Haitian national hero, Jean Jacques Dessalines, and Alexandre Pétion. The French were defeated after a bitter struggle. On January 1, 1804, Dessalines proclaimed the independence of Saint Domingue, and adopted once more the original Indian name of Haiti. Dessalines, appointed governor general for life, took the title of emperor. He was killed from ambush in 1806. Haiti then established the republic with Henri-Christophe as president. Christophe later proclaimed himself king at the same time Pétion was being elected to succeed him. As a result the nation was divided; the north and west being ruled as an empire until 1820 and the rest of the country as a republic. One act which marks Pétion's administration was his furtherance of the cause of independence in South America through arms and ammunition furnished to Simón Bolívar. When Christophe committed suicide, Jean Pierre Boyer assumed authority over the whole country. In 1822, he entered the city of Santo Domingo to aid the Dominicans in their revolt against Spain. The union of the entire island under his government lasted until 1844, when the Dominican Republic organized itself as an independent state. Under Boyer's administration France formally recognized Haiti. In 1915, after a period of internal instability, the United States intervened in Haiti, giving assistance to the government in the task of putting the nation on a sounder political and financial basis. The occupation was terminated in 1934.

The republican government of Haiti is divided into three branches--legislative, executive and judicial. Législative power resides in two representative bodies; the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, elected by a relative majority of votes cast in the primary assemblies by qualified voters. When these bodies meet in joint sessions the session is known as the National Assembly. Executive power is vested in a president elected by secret ballot, direct suffrage and a relative majority of votes cast by voters of all the political subdivisions of the Republic. A Cabinet of Secretaries and Under-Secretaries assists the President.

ECONOMY: Haiti is primarily an agricultural country, the soil being its chief resource. Manufacturing has developed but little; the largest establishment is the sugar refinery at Port-au-Prince. The handicraft industry is developing considerably. Leading exports are coffee, sugar, bananas, sisal and its products, cotton, molasses, cacao and mahogany. Principal imports are cotton textiles, wheat flour, machinery and apparatus, iron and steel manufactures, soap, chemical and pharmaceutical products, gasoline, naphtha and benzine.

FLAG: The upper half of the Haitian flag is blue, the lower half red. In the center is a rectangular field, two-thirds white and one-third green, on which is placed the national coat of arms.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order:

Haiti, 10 cents; Visit Haiti, 15 cents; A Statement of the Laws of Haiti, \$1.00.; Constitution of the Republic of Haiti, 25 cents;

Foreign Trade of Haiti, 1945-1950, \$2.00; Commodity Series: Coffee, Sugar, Cacao, Rubber, 10 cents each.

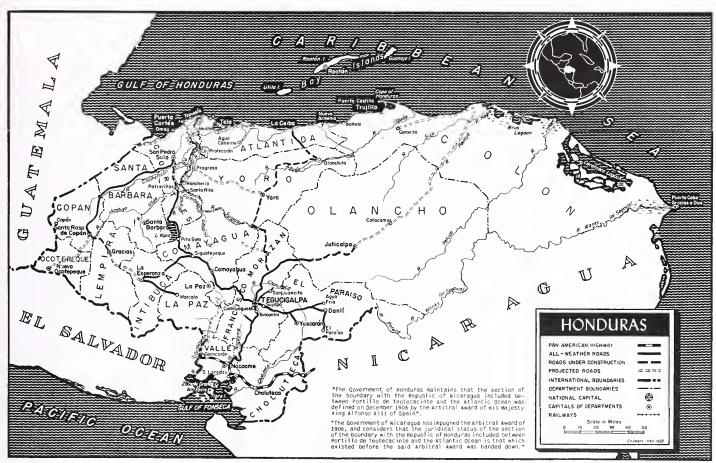
ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions).

Per year \$3.00.

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HONDURAS





Area: 59,160 square miles Population: 1,368,605 Capital: Tegucigalpa

Currency: Lempira = \$.4950 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: September 15, 1821 National Hero: Francisco Morazán

National Flower: Rose

Honduras is a land of great banana plantations, rich silver mines and extensive timber regions, as well as a potential source of many raw materials. It lies in the heart of the mahogany belt and contains probably the greatest virgin stand of that wood that exists. Two of the highlights of the country are the ancient ruins of Copán and the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana, one of the Western Hemisphere's most modern agriculture colleges, located in the Zamorano Valley. Honduras is one of the world's most air-minded countries. It is the birthplace of TACA (Transportes Aereos Centro-Americanos) which covers Central America and is noted for the volume of cargo it carries.

GEOGRAPHY: Wedge-shaped Honduras is the most mountainous of the Central American countries, and is said to be the only one having no volcanoes. The Central American Cordillera runs through the country from northwest to southeast. Great banana plantations are found on the broad northern coastal plain extending inland from the Caribbean. Rich logging sections and wild reaches of river are located in the great exapnse of swamps, mountains and jungle along the lower eastern coast called Mosquitia. Extensive, fertile valleys and plateaus, noted for their fine timber, pasture and agricultural lands, lie between the various ridges of the sawtoothed mountains. Honduras has several large rivers, countless streams and several coastal lakes. Its pride is Lake Yojoa, a beautiful lake in the Jicoque Mountains.

Honduras also has insular possessions including the picturesque Bay Islands, formed by the summit of a submerged mountain range, the Gulf of Fonseca Islands, the Swan Islands and the islets of the Mosquitia coast. Honduras' only Pacific port, Amapala, is located on Tiger Island in the Gulf of Fonseca group. The Bay Islands and the Mosquitia region were ruled alternately by Spain and Great Britain until 1859 and the majority of the inhabitants are descendents of the British. Many claim relationship with the

freebooters and buccaneers of the Spanish Main.

CULTURE: The homogeneous population of Honduras is chiefly of Spanish and Indian descent. There is in this Republic a firmly established tradition of racial equality which emphasizes the importance of talent, ability and education.

Pre-Columbian art in Honduras centers around the ruins at Copán, one of the great cultural sites of the Old Empire of the Mayas. The ancient city, shimmering in the tropical heat, spreads over many acres and is built on two levels, the upper one on a cliff overlooking the river. The Great Court where worshippers gathered, the Hieroglyphic Stairway with its carved steps which carry the longest known Maya inscription and the magnificently proportioned temple in the East Court are a few of Copán's highlights. Contemporary art revolves around the National School of Fine Arts in Comayaguela which contributes much to the artistic and cultural development of the nation. It is noted for its "Maya Corridor" with its large fresco illustrating Maya life and culture.

Hilly Tegucigalpa, Honduras' capital and chief commercial city, stands as it was originally built. Quaint streets of stairs connect one level with another. Pastel stucco homes are built flush with the street, each having its own central patio. As a matter of law, every roof is of red tile. Tegucigalpa is one of the few world capitals without a railroad but its air services are outstanding. It is the center for the silver and gold mining region adjacent to it, as well as for a large sub-tropical region in the interior and south coast area. San Juancito is the site of the silver and gold mines (operated by the New York and Honduras Rosario Mining Company) which have been in active production under the present management since 1882. The Republic's second city, San Pedro Sula, center of the banana and sugar-growing industries, is an important distributing point for the northern and western areas. Industries are more developed in this briskly modern city. Nearby are the ruins of Travesía which give evidence of Maya origin. La Lima is the headquarters of the United Fruit Company. Choluteca, on the wide, beautiful plain of the Choluteca River, is a cattle and coffee center. La Ceiba is one of Honduras' principal ports. Bananas, hides and fruits are the main products of this hot, humid Atlantic area. The Standard Fruit and Steamship Company has its headquarters here. Comayagua, the first capital of Honduras, is the site of the first Spanish university in Central America, established in 1632. The purest examples of colonial architecture in Honduras are found in this city of Castilian atmosphere, with its massive one-storied houses flanking cobbled streets. Today it is the distributing center for the great Comayagua Valley and a fireworks manufacturing center.

HISTORY: Columbus first landed on the North American mainland in 1502 at what is now known as Punta Caxinas. It was he who gave the country its name; the word honduras means "depths" and refers to the deep waters found off the north coast. Attempts at conquest followed. The Spaniards quarreled among themselves and the settlements they established engaged in continuous rivalry for wider authority. In 1537 Camayagua was founded and became the first capital of the region. The Indians were subdued in the late 1530's when the Indian chief Lempira with some 30,000 of his followers fought the Spaniards until he was treacherously assassinated at a peace parley. The name Lempira (now used to designate the country's monetary unit) has become a Honduran symbol of liberty and courage. After 1544 jurisdiction over Honduras was in the hands of an audiencia (supreme tribunal), set up briefly first in Gracias, then at Panama City and finally permanently established at Guatemala. In 1578 silver ores were discovered and as a result Tegucigalpa became an important center. Shortly thereafter Honduras was divided into two provinces, Comayagua and Tegucigalpa, causing more unfriendly rivalry between these two chief cities. French, British and Dutch buccaneers made frequent attacks on Honduras during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. In the eighteenth century the Misskiti Indians retired to the Mosquitia region and with the aid of British settlers defeated the Spanish forces there. They applied to England for protection. British forces occupied this region until 1859 when England signed a treaty with Honduras relinquishing control of the Honduran section of the Mosquitia territory. On September 15, 1821, the independence of the states comprising the Captaincy-General of Guatemala was declared in Guatemala City. For a short time Honduras formed a part of the Mexican Empire. Upon the downfall of the Empire of Iturbide in 1823, Honduras became one of the states of the Central American Federation. In 1830, Francisco Morazán, the Honduran national hero, was elected head of the Federation. Able, idealistic Morazán fought to preserve the Federation but the struggle between the Liberal and Conservative political parties proved to be too deep-rooted for his statesmanship to overcome. The Federation broke up in 1838. On November 5th of the same year, Honduras declared its secession and absolute independence. In 1841, the first constitutional president was inaugurated. Several unsuccessful attempts to renew the Federation have been made, the last in 1921.

Under the present constitution, the representative, republican government is divided into three branches--legislative, executive and judicial. The legislative power is exercised by a single chamber called the Congress of Deputies. Executive power is vested in the President, aided by his cabinet, and in default thereof by the Vice President, both of whom are elected by popular and direct vote. If no candidate receives an absolute majority, Congress elects the president or vice president, or both as the case may be, from the two candidates for either office who have received the highest number of votes. The constitution also provides for Honduran participation in a Central American Union, should plans for such a union be perfected.

ECONOMY: Honduran economy is based almost entirely upon agricultural products. Lack of transportation facilities, however, has retarded agricultural development. Lumbering is an important source of wealth. Mining is the third most important industry. Silver, next to bananas, is the most important item in the export trade. Manufacturing enterprises operate on a small scale. Leading exports are bananas, silver and gold, coffee, lumber, livestock, cigars and tobacco, coconuts and beans. The principal imports are raw materials, manufactured products, foodstuffs and beverages.

FLAG: The Honduran flag consists of three horizontal stripes of equal width, the two outer ones blue, and the center one white. In the center of the white stripe are five blue stars representing the members of the former Central American Federation.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order.

Honduras, 10 cents; Tegucigalpa, 10 cents; Visit Honduras, 15 cents; A Statement of the Laws of Honduras, \$1.00.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Per year, \$3.00.

Catalog of the Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

MEXICO





Area: 758,450 sq. miles Population: 28,849,465

Capital: Mexico City (Federal District)

Currency: peso = \$.0799 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: September 16, 1810

National Hero: Benito Juárez National Flower: Dahlia

Magnificent Mexico, land of the ancient Aztecs, is a country of contrasts, with its extremes of beauty and harshness, its wealth of rich and varied cultures, and its modern cities which retain the charm of Old Spain. Here one finds the tropical lowlands and the high volcanic peaks of Orizaba, Popocatépetl and Paricutín; the hot desert and chilly mountain passes.

GEOGRAPHY: Because of its varying altitudes and location, Mexico has a greatly diversified climate, ranging from tropical to cold. Two mountain chains, the Eastern Sierra Madre and the Western Sierra Madre, cross the country forming between them a number of valleys and plateaus. The Central Plain is located between these ranges. With a few exceptions, the principal cities are in this leading agricultural region. Between each of the mountain ranges and the coast are tropical coastal plains. South and southeast of Mexico City lie the broken plateaus of Mesa del Sur and the Chiapas Highlands. The peninsula of Yucatan and the peninsula of Baja California complete the Mexican area.

<u>CULTURE</u>: Modern Mexico is a unique mixture of Indian and Spanish elements, both racial and cultural. About 60 per cent of the Mexican people are <u>mestizos</u> (of mixed Indian and white ancestry). Pure-blooded Indians are estimated to be only 30 per cent of the population, while people of unmixed European descent comprise around 10 per cent. As a whole, the Mexican people impress others with their dignity, friendliness, courtesy and gayety.

The pre-Columbian peoples of Mexico--the Mayas, Toltecs, and Aztecs--developed art forms of amazing beauty and craftsmanship. The Mayas are noted for their architecture and sculpture of placid, austere beauty of proportion and sensitiveness. The works of the Aztecs rival the sober and vigorous solidity of great Egyptian sculpture. The Aztec calendar stone, astoundingly accurate, gives evidence of their scientific attainments. Architecture was the predominant mode of artistic expression of the colonial period, with Indian motifs superimposed on European styles. Perhaps Mexico's greatest contribution to world art has been mural painting. The three great masters of this movement are Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siqueiros. A land of handicrafts, Mexico is widely known for its ceramic-ware and exquisite silver jewelry. It is noted, too, for its sarapes, tooled leather, glassware, and basketry. Mexico's wealth of folk and popular music is a fusion of Spanish and Indian elements. The corrido, a type of narrative folk ballad, is used to celebrate local incidents or national events.

Mexico City, the capital, is the oldest metropolis on the continent. It is a city of "firsts": North America's first university, now known as National University, was founded there in 1551. The first book to be printed in the Western Hemisphere was published there in 1539. In 1525 the first church on this continent was erected over the ruins of the Aztec temple to the god of war. Here, too, is the oldest hospital in America, the Hospital of Jesús Nazareno, built in 1527 on the spot where Cortés and Moctezuma met.

Chapultepec Castle, begun in 1783 and later rebuilt by Maximilian and Carlota, is the place where the Act of Chapultepec, pledging the American Republics to the collective defense of the Western Hemisphere, was signed. Mexico City is not only the cultural and political center of the country but also the heart of its economic and industrial life. Its past and present are seen in its Aztec sculpture, colonial religious paintings, and the forceful murals of Rivera and Orozco; pre-Aztec pyramids, colonial churches, and modernistic apartments, the latest in automobiles, and laden burros. Xochimilco, the "floating gardens" outside of Mexico City, is often described as Mexico's Venice. Nearby, at the pre-Aztec city of San Juan Teotihuacán, is the Pyramid of the Sun, 220 feet high. The religious center of Mexico is the Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe, to the north of Mexico City.

Guadalajara, second city of Mexico, is in a rich mining and agricultural district. It is noted not only for its graceful Spanish architecture and exceptional climate but also as a manufacturing, agricultural, and cattle center. It is famous for its blown glass, and ceramic industry. Monterrey, sometimes referred to as the Mexican Pittsburgh, is Mexico's most important industrial center. Puebla, the "city of churches," is the most characteristically Spanish city in the Republic. The national costume, the "china poblana," originated here. Legend tells that a Chinese princess, bought by a Puebla merchant, adopted the native dress and embroidered it with colored glass. Mérida is the seat of the Yucatán government and center of the henequen-producing region. Chichén Itzá, ancient Mayan capital, is nearby. Veracruz is Mexico's most important seaport. Tampico, in the rich oil-producing region, is the principal port for export of petroleum.

HISTORY: Mexico, which derives its name from the Aztec god of war, Mexitli, had three great Indian civilizations before the arrival of the Spaniards. In 1325 the Aztecs founded Tenochtitlán on the same site as present-

tions before the arrival of the Spaniards. In 1325 the Aztecs founded Tenochtitlán on the same site as present-day Mexico City. Yucatán was formally discovered by Francisco Hernández de Córdoba in 1517. In 1519 Hernán Cortés landed at Veracruz. He defeated the Aztecs in approximately two years. The country was governed by Spanish viceroys for nearly 300 years. On September 16, 1810, the people, led by Miguel Hidalgo, announced their desire for freedom. The Declaration of Independence was formally proclaimed in 1813. Mexico's national hero, Benito Juárez, an Indian who became president in 1858, freed the country from the French rule of Archduke Maximilian of Austria in 1867. Juárez, a noted lawmaker, promulgated a constitution providing for a more democratic and liberal government. The dictatorial Porfirio Díaz was overthrown by the Revolution of 1910. In 1917 a new constitution was promulgated which restated more vigorously Juárez's principles.

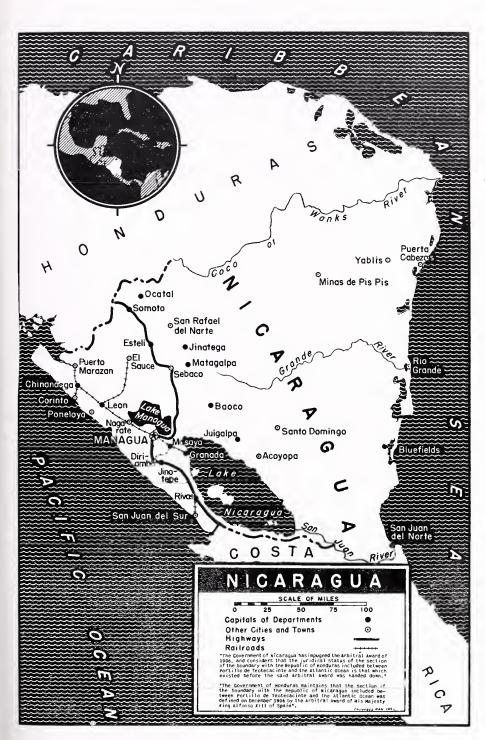
The United States of Mexico, consisting of the 29 states, two territories, and Federal District, form a Federal Republic in which the executive power is vested in a president elected by direct popular vote. Legislative power is vested in a two-chamber General Congress composed of a Senate and a Chamber of Deputies. ECONOMY: Mexico is essentially an agricultural country. Mining and oil production are its most important and highly developed industries. It leads the world in production of silver. With the exception of coal and iron, mineral production is exported almost in its entirety. Manufacturing is developing rapidly. The principal exports are lead, coffee, silver, gold, henequen, chicle, zinc, cotton, and petroleum. Principal imports are chemicals; iron and steel manufactures; machinery, equipment, and tools for industry, mining and the arts; wheat, vehicles, and pharmaceutical supplies.

FLAG: The Mexican flag consists of three vertical stripes of equal width: green for unity, white for religion, and red for independence. In the center of the white stripe is the national coat of arms.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order: Mexico, 10 cents; Motoring to Mexico, 25 cents; Diego Rivera, 50 cents; The Present State of Music in Mexico, 50 cents; Hernán Cortés. Conqueror of Mexico, 10 cents; The Aztec People, 10 cents; The Mayas, 10 cents; Holidays & Festivals in Mexico, 15 cents. ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish, and Portuguese editions). Per year, \$3.00. Catalog of the Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

NICARAGUA





Area: 57,145 square miles Population: 1,057,023 Capital: Managua

Currency: Córdoba - \$.20 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: September 15, 1821 National Hero: Miguel Larreynaga National Flower: Heliotrope

Nicaragua, homeland of the illustrious alyric poet and short story writer Rubén Darío, is one of the largest Central American countries. Dominated by a chain of dormant volcanoes, it holds unique attractions in its tropical scenery. Lake Nicaragua, one of the world's largest fresh-water lakes, abounds in salt-water fish. Nicaragua's geographical location has long caused it to be considered for a waterway to connect the Pacific and the Atlantic Ocean.

GEOGRAPHY: Triangular in form, Nicaragua is divided into two regions by the Central American cordillera. Heart of the country is the broad lowland belt that parallels the Pacific coast and then runs diagonally toward the Caribbean. Two large scenic lakes, Nicaragua and Managua, dominate the region. The northwestern end of the lowlands is broken by a chain of more than 20 volcanoes, many of which are still mildly active. Coffee, oil-producing sesame seeds, cacao, sugar, cotton and tobacco flourish in the rich volcanic soil. The low, swampy Caribbean coast, largely covered with tropical forests and jungle, is called the Mosquito Coast. To the north, a triangular wedge of temperate highlands slopes gradually toward the east.

CULTURE: Nicaragua's population is a fairly homogenous one. The people on the west coast are of Spanish and Indian descent. On the eastern side, the coastal population is of Spanish, Indian and Jamaican Negro ancestry. The western region is the most densely populated. It contains the closest groupings of large towns in Central America and is, at the same time the most important agricultural section of the nation.

The capital, Managua, is a unique blend of ultra modern buildings, humble homes and a few Moorish-style stone colonial mansions. Horse-drawn carriages that sound a chime as they approach a corner vie with modern automobiles and taxis on the well-paved streets. Managuans have a sociable habit of setting their rocking chairs in the doorways or on the sidewalk at sundown and passing the time with talk and music. One of the city's attractions is the park and monument dedicated to Rubén Darío. Darío is internationally famous for his stimulating modernist style and philosophy. Near the capital at El Cauce, prehistoric footprints have been discovered preserved by hardened volcanic cinders which may well be the oldest traces of humanity yet found in Central America. León Viejo lies in ruins at the foot of Momotombo volcano. León, the capital during the colonial period, then of the republic until 1852, is Nicaragua's intellectual center. This classic colonial city of cobbled streets, adobe houses, red tile roofs and many old buildings, cherishes the distinction of being Darío's home. Its splendid Cathedral, one of the largest in Latin America, possesses valuable jewels and religious relics. Nearby are the ruins of the Casa de Pólvora (Powder Magazine).

Nicaragua's oldest city, unspoiled, charming, conservative Granada, is the center of wealth and aristocracy. This important commercial center lies in a fertile coffee and sugar cane-producing region. Many of its people are landowners or merchants engaged in soap, furniture and clothing industries. Points of interest are the Central American School, with its valuable collection of pre-historic Indian idols and the chapel of María Auxiliadora, lavishly hung with exquisite laces and hand-embroidered work for which the women of Granada are famous. The "City of Flowers," Masaya, center of a tobacco-growing district, is noted for its hammock industry, a wide variety of Indian handicrafts and the fiesta of its patron saint, San Jerónimo. Nicaragua's principal port, Corinto, on the Pacific coast, is an island connected with the mainland by the longest railroad bridge in Central America. Matagalpa, chief city of the north, lies in the midst of coffee groves, grazing lands and virgin forests. Some of the country's finest coffee is grown here. Bonanza, Siuna and La Luz are large gold mining centers developed in recent years with machinery taken in by plane. Bluefields, the largest port town on the east coast, takes its name from the Dutch pirate Blewfeldt, who plundered in the Caribbean. Puerto Cabezas is an important shipping point for gold and metals. San Juan del Norte was important during the 1849 gold rush when travelers from New York and New Orleans landed there to take launches up the San Juan River to Lake Nicaragua and, from there, stage coaches to the Pacific coast en route to California. This transportation route was established by a North American, Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt.

Pre-Columbian art consisting mainly of gold ornaments, jadeite stone and shell jewelry, pottery, burial urns, stone images and temple sites have been found in several places. Many archaeological remains are believed to exist around the base of Momotombo volcano. The School of Fine Arts in Managua gives impetus to the creative arts today. Rodrigo Peñalba, a painter and caricaturist, and Genaro Amador Lira, a sculptor and carver of miniatures, enjoy wide popularity.

HISTORY: In 1502, Columbus landed in Nicaragua, which derives its name from Nicarao, an Indian chieftain who ruled the area at the time of the Spanish Conquest. Later conquistadores under Gil González Dávila explored the land. In 1524, Francisco Herández de Córdoba founded Granada. During most of the colonial period the administration was under the jurisdiction of the Captaincy-General of Guatemala. The independence of the five provinces of Central America from the Spanish Crown was proclaimed in Guatemala on September 15, 1821. However, while Granada accepted the new government, León remained faithful to Spain. As a result, intermittent warfare began which lasted until Morazán, who was president of the Central American Federation, sent Dionisio de Herrera as "Chief of State" to restore law and order. Miguel Larreynaga, Nicaragua's national hero, was an outstanding figure during the colonial regime and later an ardent worker for independence; he was also a remarkable teacher, eminent jurist and outstanding author. An intense rivalry arose between liberal Leon and conservative Granada. In the late 1850's the Liberals appealed for the support and assistance of a band of North American filibusters, led by William Walker. Walker, taking advantage of the situation, succeeded in having himself elected President in 1856. All of Central America rose in arms against him. The North American financier, Cornelius Vanderbilt, who had interests in a company in Nicaragua, helped bring about his downfall by ordering the seizure of vessels bringing Walker reinforcements and supplies. Walker was defeated in 1857 and shot in 1860 in Honduras. The capital was moved to Managua in 1858. The Conservatives ruled from 1863-93 and fostered social and economic progress. A Liberal, José Santos Zelaya, then ruled for 17 years. In 1912 President Adolfo Diaz asked for U.S. Marines to help maintain order. The marines landed and remained until 1925. Then revolution began anew. The marines returned in 1927 and remained until 1932.

The Nicaraguan government is divided into three branches--legislative, executive and judicial. The legislative branch is composed of two houses: The House of Deputies and a Senate. The executive branch is composed of a President, elected by popular vote, and ten Ministers of Government, who form a consultative Council.

ECONOMY: Nicaragua is principally an agricultural nation. Mining is second in importance and contributes substantially to its economy. Industry is primarily concerned with the processing of agricultural commodities. Sugar refining is the largest industry. The economic system is based on foreign trade. Principal exports are coffee, cotton, gold, sesame, lumber, cattle, corn, and rice. Leading imports are manufactured goods such as cotton products, machinery and apparatus, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, iron and steel manufactures, vehicles, oils, paper and its products and gasoline.

FLAG: The flag consists of three horizontal stripes. The upper and lower ones are blue, the middle one white.

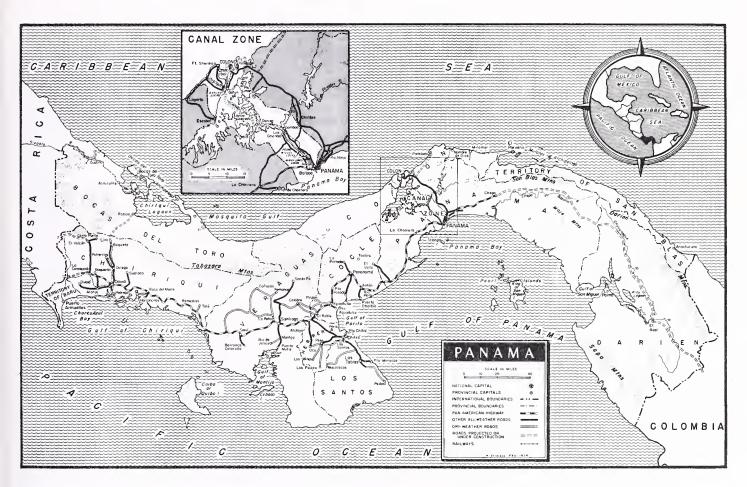
Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order:

Nicaragua, 10 cents; Visit Nicaragua, 15 cents; Managua, 10 cents.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Per year, \$3.00. Catalog of the Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

PANAMA





Area: 29,127 (includes the Panama Canal Zone)

Population: 805,285 Capital: Panama City

Currency: Balboa = \$1.00 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: November 3, 1903

National Hero: Tomás Herrera National Flower: Holy Ghost orchid

Panama, strategically located at the crossroads of the world's steamship lanes, is the connecting link between the Atlantic and the Pacific and the land bridge between North and South America. It is also the junction for inter-American air traffic. Its potentialities include extensive virgin forests, with a complex river system ready to provide hydroelectric power and easy transportation for a great lumber industry, as well as vast undeveloped fertile lands. Panama is the site of the first Pan American congress convoked by Simón Bolívar in June 1826; the first practical expression of the idea of inter-American cooperation. Panama has played a consistently important part in international life.

GEOGRAPHY: The tropical isthmus of Panama runs east and west, looking somewhat like a reclining letter "S." Two mountain ranges standing end to end traverse its entire length, enclosing many fertile valleys and plains. In the eastern area are vast expanses of jungle, the natural state of most of the country. The Panama Canal Zone, an area of 553 square miles under perpetual lease to the United States, is a strip ten miles wide cutting across the isthmus at its narrowest point. Panamanian coasts are indented and scattered with islands.

CULTURE: The Panamanian people are of hetrogeneous origin, chiefly Spanish and Indian. In the highland area, pre-Columbian pottery and gold trinkets have been found, adorned with motifs similar to those of the Mayas.

The modern cosmopolitan capital of Panama City is a blend of Spanish colonial charm, American progress and the bazaar atmosphere of the Orient. Its narrow old streets contain numerous relics of a colorful past. Among the religious structures of colonial times are the Cathedral, with its painting of the Virgin of the Rosary by Murillo, and the Church of San José, famous for its golden altar saved from destruction by the pirate Morgan when a resourceful monk painted it to look like wood. At the Presidencia. the President's official residence, graceful snow-white egrets stroll about the Moorish courtyard which is ornamented with columns studded with mother-of-pearl. Las Bóvedas (The Vaults) are the vaulted chambers inside the sea wall which at one time were used as dungeons. Santo Tomás Hospital in Panama City is one of the best-equipped institutions of its kind in Latin America. The Inter-American University is one of the newest cultural centers in the Western Hemisphere. Panamá La Vieja (Old Panama), about seven miles from the capital, is the site of jungle-choked ruins which mutely tell the tale of Morgan's sacking and destruction. In the wild forest-covered mountains and jungles of the Province of Panama live the Darién Indians who still maintain their ancient tribal customs, language and mode of living. Colón, a free port on the palm-fringed "Gold Coast"—the Atlantic side of Panama, is a great international commercial center. Its twin, the port town Cristobal, is under United States jurisdiction. Westward is the town of Gatún which has the largest lock structure in the Canal. At the mouth of the Rió Chagres is the former Spanish stronghold, Fort San Lorenzo, the oldest fort under the United States flag. Romantic Portobelo, overlooking a beautiful harbor sheltered by rugged hills, was a colonial stronghold and trade center. Today its moss-covered ruins speak eloquently of Spain's former might. Eastward lies the picturesque San Blas archipelago, made up of 365 islands inhabited by the primitive, independent San Blas or Cuna Indians. The men of this tribe cultivate plantations along the inland rivers but return to their clean, trim island villages at night. The Province of Veraguas is called the granary of the republic because of its rice, corn and cereal crops. Around Ocú, a small village in Los Santos Province, live the montunos, shy, industrious, hospitable, country people who dwell in bohios (palm-thatched adobe huts). The men dress in homespun suits with bright-colored embroidery; their long blouses are worn outside the knee-length embroidered fringed trousers. They hang a chacara (crocheted bag) over one shoulder which serves as a pocketbook. The women wear a tumba hombre or pollera, dresses which have bright-colored very full skirts and voile blouses trimmed with yards of handmade lace and intricate embroidery. Both the men and women wear Panama hats and are usually barefoot. Their hats have a black stripe, characteristic of those made in Panama.

Prosperous Chiriqui Province, with its extensive forest tracts, rich soil and fine grasslands, abounds in luxuriant plantations. Its capital, the hot, thriving city of David, is the Republic's third city in size and importance. Taboga, on Taboga Island in the Gulf of Panama, is a tiny place of narrow winding trails, picturesque houses, fishing shanties, an ancient church and modern hotel. The Pearl Islands with their palm-thatched villages by the beaches and mountains rising directly from the sea, are the nucleus of the world renowned Panamanian fishing grounds. The large pearl industry for which they were named has died down.

HISTORY: In 1502, Columbus explored the Caribbean coast of Panama, claiming the land for the Spanish crown. In 1513, Vasco Núñez de Balboa set out from the coast on the overland journey which led to his discovery of the Pacific Ocean. In 1516, Pedro Arias Dávila (Pedrarias) moved the seat of government to the Pacific coast, establishing the town Panama. The country, first used as a base of operations by the Spanish adventurers, was made the seat of the third Audiencia Real (supreme tribunal) in 1538. For two hundred years it served as a focal point of commerce in the western world and as the seat of a colonial administration whose jurisdiction at one time spread over what is now Nicaragua, Costa Rica and part of Colombia. The administration of Panamanian affairs was subjected, successively, to the Captaincy-General of Guatemala and the Viceroyalities of Lima (Peru) and Santa Fe (Colombia). In 1819 Venezuela and Colombia, freed from Spanish rule, united as the "Republic of Colombia," and in 1821 Panama joined the Federation under the name of the Department of the Isthmus. Until 1903 it remained part of Colombia, except for brief intervals when secessionist movements led the people to seek autonomy. The most successful of these movements was led by Panama's national hero Tomás Herrera in 1840, after which the country maintained its independence from Colombia for thirteen months. Panama gained its permanent independence on November 3, 1903. Soon afterwards Panama signed a treaty with the United States for the construction of the Canal. Under the treaty, the United States had a perpetual lease to build, occupy and defend the Canal Zone and to exercise all sovereign powers there. The Canal is one of the greatest engineering feats in history.

The government of Panama ia a centralized republic, divided into three branches; legislative, executive and judicial. Legislative power is vested in the National Assembly. The President, elected by direct popular vote, is assisted by two vice-presidents and a cabinet of ministers.

ECONOMY: Panama's principal exports are bananas, abacá, cacao, coconuts and cattle hides. Leading imports are foodstuffs, manufactures, textiles, chemicals and tools. The country does a huge business in "invisible exports," i.e., sale of goods and services to visitors to the Canal Zone and to United States personnel associated with the Canal Zone administration. Manufacturing is confined almost entirely to light consumer goods. Mining occupies a minor position though important deposits of manganese and limestone are awaiting development.

FLAG: The Panamanian flag is divided into four quarters. The upper one next to the staff is white whith a blue star in its center, the outer one is red, the lower one next to the staff is blue and the fourth, white with a red star in its center.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order:

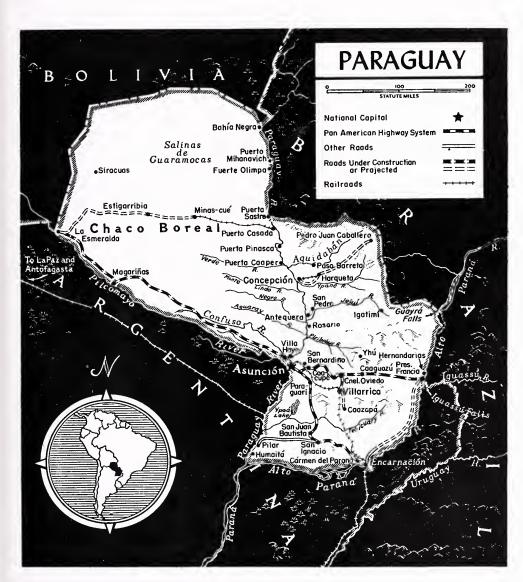
Panama, 10 cents; The Panama Canal, 10 cents; Balboa, 10 cents; A Statement of the Laws of Panama, \$3.00; Cacao, 10 cents.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions).

Per year, \$3.00. Catalog of the Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

PARAGUAY





Area: 157,047 square miles Population: 1,405,627 Capital: Asunción

Currency: Guaraní = \$.0476 U.S. Language: Spanish and Guaraní Independence Day: May 14, 1811 National Flower: Jasmin of

Paraguay

Paraguay is a land of legendary fighting men, heroic men whose brave stands against overwhelming odds during the Triple Alliance War places them high in the ranks of the valiant. Though Paraguay won its independence from Spain without bloodshed, two later wars decreased its natural resources and diminished its population. The Republic's wealth lies in its fertile red soil but large deposits of iron ore, and copper and manganese have been reported. One of South America's two inland countries, it is not, however, landlocked as the Parana-Paraguay river system affords direct access to the sea. It is a beautiful land of towering palms, the spectacular Guaira Falls, deep forests of flowering hardwoods, orchids and ever present orange trees. Oil of petit-grain, distilled from bitter oranges and used as a base for perfume and for flavorings, is one of the Republic's chief exports.

GEOGRAPHY: Paraguay is divided into two regions. East of the Paraguay River are tropical forests, low-lying plateaus and grass-lands. In the forest clearings the soil is extremely fertile, producing crops of mandioca, cotton, tobacco, sugar cane, yerba mate-sometimes called Paraguayan tea--and various fruits. Most of the population is concentrated in this rich farming and cattle-grazing

area where a great deal of the business activities are transacted. The sparsely-populated Gran Chaco region to the west consists of flat grassy plains, laced with a network of rivers, and dense forests. The plains along the Paraguay River provide excellent pastures for the raising of livestock.

Paraguay has three main rivers. The Paraguay, its foremost waterway and principal contact with the outside world, forms part of its western border. The Alto Paraná, merging with the Paraguay in the south, forms 400 miles of the southern and eastern boundaries, while the Pilcomayo flowing across the Chaco from Bolivia forms the southwestern border.

HISTORY: When Alejo García, exploring for Portugal, in the 1520's made his way from Brazil to Bolivia he found the land that is now Paraguay peopled by numerous Indians, the most important being the Guaranís. The first permanent Spanish settlement was founded at Asunción in 1537. Until 1617 Paraguay and Argentina were ruled jointly by the same Spanish governor. The seat of the government was Asunción until 1580 when it was removed to Buenos Aires. From 1617 until 1811 when they gained their independence, Paraguay and Argentina remained separate colonies governed by the viceroyalty of Peru and later the viceroyalty of La Plata which was established at Buenos Aires in 1776. On May 14, 1811 Paraguay gained its independence from Spain without bloodshed when the governor agreed to resign. A consular government was set up. Congress proclaimed Rodríguez de Francia, called "El Supremo," head of the government in 1814. He closed the country to the outside world and ruled it with an iron hand. In 1844 Carlos Antonio López became president and remained so until his death in 1862. He built roads and railroads, instituted many reforms and promoted education. His son, Francisco Solano López, known as "El Mariscal" or the Marshal, succeeded him. Under his leadership Paraguay entered and fought the disastrous Triple Alliance War in which Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay combined and fought against Paraguay for five years. War ended at the death of López in 1870, leaving the country ruined.

The Chaco war between Bolivia and Paraguay lasted from 1921 to 1938. It was costly to both countries in lives and money. Considerable part of the little explored Gran Chaco was in dispute and as settlement Paraguay was given about three-fourths of the

disputed area, while Bolivia gained an outlet on the Paraguay River.

The Paraguayan government is divided into three branches: legislative, executive and judicial. The executive and legislative powers have an intermediate body called the Council of State composed of the President, cabinet members, appointed representatives of commerce and industry and certain other persons ex officio. The Council has an advisory function in both foreign and domestic affairs. Legislative power is exercised by the Chamber of Representatives.

CULTURE: Paraguayans are for the most part well-amalgamated descendants of Spanish settlers and Guaraní Indians, people with a tradition of brave and disciplined courage. In more recent time Argentines, Germans and Italians have settled there. It is interesting to note that while Spanish is the official language and is spoken everywhere, Guaraní is used almost as universally. A native Paraguayan skill is the making of ñandutí lace which is weblike, delicate and intricate and quite unlike other famous laces. This traditional craft is carried on almost entirely in the small, ancient town of Itauguá. Historical and legal writings occupy the leading place in Paraguayan literature, even poetry seldom loses touch with social realities. Paraguayan art goes back to colonial times when missionaries established art schools. Leaders in the field of modern art are Pablo Alborno, Juan Samudio, Julián Campos Cervera, Delgado Rodas and Jaime Bestard.

The capital city Asunción is the center of all activities. Factories line the river bank. The oldest section borders a bay extending from the Paraguay River. Most public buildings in Asunción date from the latter half of the 19th centry. Outstanding are the Congressional Palace, the Government Palace, the National Pantheon and the church of La Encarnación. Historical collections, especially those connected with the Triple Alliance War, are in the Godoy Museum. In the nearby suburb of Trinidad, the estate of Carlos Antonio López has been converted into a Botanical Garden of tropical plants which is said to be one of the finest in the Americas. Villeta, the most important orange shipping port, is a center for the cotton and tobacco industries as well.

The major port on the Alto Paraná, Encarnación is an important commercial center and rail terminal. Villarrica is the Republic's second city. Often called the city of hills and oranges, it is important as an industrial, agricultural and communications center. Trade and communication hub of the north is the colonial city of Concepción which is also an educational center. The surrounding territory produces much corn, grain and yerba mate. Northeast of here lies a great reach of beautiful but primitive country rich in lumber and cattle.

In the Chaco, Paraguay's frontier region, Mennonites from Canada, Russia, Germany and Poland have established well-ordered and attractive villages. Two outstanding resources of the region are quebracho and oil. Tannin extracted from the mahogany-like quebracho tree is used in the processing of hides into commercial leather. It is second to meat canning as the Republic's leading industry. At Santa Rosa oil drilling has brought results of great promise.

ECONOMY: Paraguay is essentially an agricultural land. Most actual production is concentrated in forest clearings in the eastern part. Stockraising supplements agriculture as an important economic activity. Mining is very limited. Manufacturing is concerned mainly with the processing of raw materials for export trade. Principal exports are cotton fiber, meat extracts, quebracho extract, lumber and logs, cattle hides, yerba mate, tobacco and oil of petit-grain. Leading imports are cotton textiles, motor vehicles, agricultural implements, tin plate, breeding cattle, wheat flour and gasoline.

FLAG: The Paraguayan flag is composed of three horizontal stripes, the upper red, the middle white and the lower blue. In the center of one side is the national coat-of-arms, on the reverse the Treasury seal.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Information Desk or by mail order:

Paraguay, 10 cents; Asunción, 10 cents; Yerba Mate, 10 cents; Sugar, 10 cents; A Statement of the Laws of Paraguay, \$3.00. ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions) Per year \$3.00.

Catalog of Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

PERU





Monument to the Liberator, José de San Martín, in Plaza San Martín, Lima, Peru

Area: 482,258 sq. miles Population: 8,926,000 ('52 estimate)

Capital: Lima

Currency: Sol - \$.0524 U.S.

Language: Spanish National Hero: Hipólito Unanue

Independence Day: July 28,

1821

National Flower: Cantú

Peru is a land of developing modernity and historic native charm. It is a treasure house of natural beauty, ancient Indian and Spanish cultures and a source of great mineral wealth. It is a leading exporter of bismuth, and has one of the world's largest vanadium mines. Lake Titicaca, situated 12,500 feet above sea level, is the highest navigable body of water in the world. It lies partly in Peru and partly in Bolivia, its scenic beauty enlivened by the Aymara Indian boatmen in their picturesque balsas (raftlike canoes).

GEOGRAPHY: Peru is split into four isolated regions by the mighty Andes mountains. Some fifty fertile valleys formed by mountain streams flowing from the Andes to the Pacific cut the vast, hot desert along the coast. Cane huts, adobe houses and, less frequently, landowners' mansions ring the valley villages. In the valleys to the south irrigation works have been constructed to step up production of cotton, sugar cane, rice, flax, corn and many fruits. Off the coast lie the Chincha islands, famous for their guano bird deposits which provide a high-grade fertilizer. Paralleling the coast is the majestic Andean cordillera.

Glacier—crowned Mt. Huascarán, monarch of the peaks, rises more than 22,000 feet. The sierra, home of the picturesque *llama*, includes lofty, snow—clad ridges and broad plateaus, cut by deep river gorges and terraced valleys. Vanadium, molybdenum, platinum, gold, silver and copper are mined here in great quantities. On the eastern slopes of the Andes lies the sub—tropical *montaña* with its virgin forests cut by torrential rivers—the Marañón, Huallaga and Ucayali—which make their way into the Amazon. Eastward stretch the remote, forested, tropical *selvas* or jungles. Intensive exploration and road construction may some day make the eastern region one of Peru's most important sources of wealth because of cinchona bark, rubber and barbasco (insecticide base).

CULTURE: Almost 49 per cent of Peru's population are descendants of the ancient Indian inhabitants, many of whom still speak the Quechua or some other old, native language. About 37 per cent of the population is of mixed European and Indian ancestery. Some 13 per cent is European, while the remaining one per cent is of Negro or Oriental origin.

Peru is rich in the remains of its pre—Spanish cultures which help give it its peculiar charm. A series of great civilizations flourished in Peru, beginning about 200 B.C. The Chimu civilization had as its capital Chan Chan near the present city of Trujillo. It was outstanding for the realism, beauty, technique and decorative excellence of its pottery, especially the terra cotta portrait vases. Brilliantly colored, conventionalized pottery, ceramics, textiles and intricate metal work and architecture typify the Nazca culture. The Tiahuanaco civilization produced a stylized art of striking strength. The Incas, unsurpassed in the skill and accuracy of their stone cutting and fitting, exemplified cultural advancement in the fields of economic and political development.

Lima, the historic capital, is Peru's most important commercial and social center. This "City of Kings," symbolic of Spanish power and civilization in the Americas for almost three centuries, preserves its colonial atmosphere in such buildings as the Cathedral; the University of San Marcos (1551), which is South America's oldest university, and the Torre Tagle Palace. Industrial Callao is Peru's chief seaport, with one of the best equipped harbors of South America's west coast. The ancient, venerable Inca capital of Cuzco is called the "Archeological Capital" of South America because of the ruins of Inca temples, fortresses, palaces and other structures found throughout the city and vicinity: the Fortress of Sacsahuaman; the fortress of Ollantaitambo; and the ruins of Machu Picchu, one of the wonders of the world. Cuzco reveals its antiquity in its walls and foundations of huge stones fitted by the Incas upon which the Spanish built beautiful churches and homes. Cerro de Pasco, in a famous copper and silver district, is the center of one of the oldest mining communities of South America. Arequipa, at the base of the snow—capped volcano El Misti, is the center of a rich stock—raising and agricultural district. It is the economic hub of southern Peru and important as a wool market. The port of Pisco gives its name to a celebrated brandy sold along the whole west coast of the continent. Iquitos, an upper Amazon port, is the chief commercial center of the montaña and selvas, gathering in its warehouses products from all of eastern Peru. Talara, one of the world's oldest and most important petroleum—producing areas, lies in the arid, windswept desert.

HISTORY: The Spaniards, arriving in Peru in 1531, found a far—flung, highly—developed civilization, the Inca Empire, which was in a state of civil unrest because of a struggle for power between two brothers. Francisco Pizarro, leader of the Spanish conquistadores, seized the ruling Inca, Atahualpa, and held him as a hostage until his people paid a tremendous ransom in gold. After the ransom was paid, the Spaniards killed Atahualpa. Pizarro himself was murdered in 1541. Peru, for a period of some 200 years, was the richest and most powerful of Spain's three viceroyalties in Latin America. It was among the last of the colonies to be freed from Spain. In 1820, General San Martín, leading the Argentine and Chilean armies, began his invasion of Peru. On July 28, 1821, he proclaimed Peru's independence. In 1824, Simón Bolívar's forces under General Sucre decisively defeated the Royalists at Ayacucho. For a short time Peru and Bolivia united politically, forming the Peruvian—Bolivian Confederation. In 1866, Peru, with Bolivia, Ecuador and Chile, defeated Spain's attempt to regain its lost colonies. In 1879, through its alliance with Bolivia, Peru was drawn into a war with Chile, which resulted in the loss of the Province of Tarapacá. The Chileans occupied Lima in 1881. By the Treaty of Ancón (1884), Peru was required to permit Chilean occupation of the provinces of Tacna and Arica for a period of ten years. The Tacna—Arica dispute was settled by treaty agreement in 1929 when Tacna was returned to Peru.

Peru has a republican form of government consisting of three branches: Legislative, executive and judicial. Legislative authority is vested in a Congress composed of a Chamber of Deputies and a Senate. The President and two Vice Presidents are elected for a period of six years. A Cabinet of 12 ministers assists the President.

ECONOMY: The basic industry of Peru is agriculture, with cotton and sugar being the major exports in this field. Peru, famous for its metals and mineral resources, has rich deposits of petroleum, copper, silver, gold, vanadium and coal. Manufacturing is still in its early stages. Foreign trade is vital to Peru's economy. Principal exports are petroleum and its by-products; copper, gold, lead, silver, vanadium and zinc; sugar; cotton; wool; flax and its products. Principal imports are foodstuffs; machinery and tools; finished metal products; pharmaceuticals; paints and varnishes, and paper products.

FLAG: The Peruvian flag is composed of three vertical stripes, red, white and red. The coat of arms is in the center.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order:

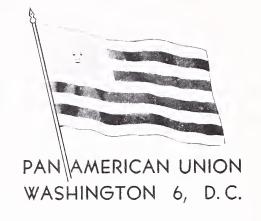
Peru, 10 cents; The Peruvian Economy-1950, \$1.00; The Guano Islands of Peru, 10 cents; Francisco Pizarro, 10 cents;

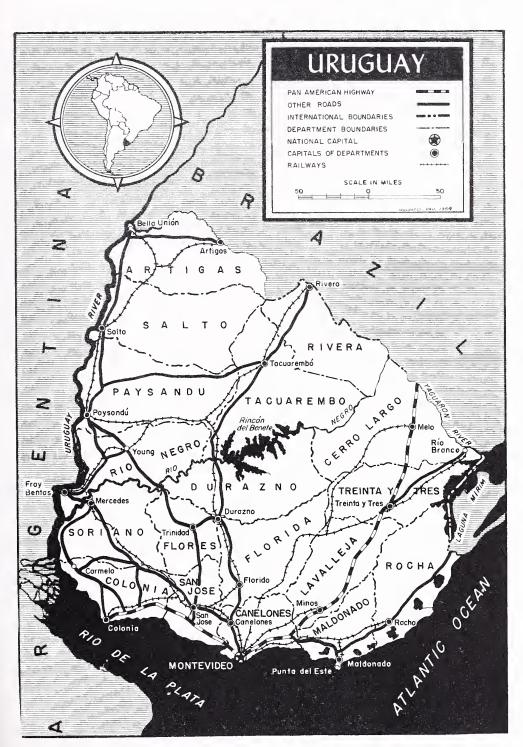
Copper, 10 cents; Iron, 10 cents; Rubber, 10 cents; Petroleum, 10 cents; Sugar, 10 cents.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Per year, \$3.00.

Catalog of the Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

URUGUAY





Area: 72,153 square miles Population: 2,447,747 Capital: Montevideo

Currency: Peso = \$.5263 U.S.

Language: Spanish Independence Day:

August 25, 1825

National Hero: José Gervasio Artigas

National Flower: Ceibo

Progressive Uruguay is a country outstanding for the enlightened character of its political institutions and the material progress of its people. Undoubtedly one of the most healthful countries of the world, it is noted for its adventurers into the field of social experiment and planning. A leader in broadening educational opportunity, Uruguay, or as it often is called "the social laboratory of the Americas," also established the eight-hour working day long before the United States. This republic is unusual in that the government plays a leading role in may fields; the state being engaged in a variety of business activities chiefly through independent agencies set up by and responsible to the state. Interestingly, these agencies are completely removed from politics.

Uruguay, with its relaxing natural beauty and temperate climate, has become one of Latin America's most famous resort centers. A virtually unbroken chain of beaches stretches along its extensive coasts. Pocitos, Ramirez, Carresco, Atlántida, Piriápolis and Punta del Este are but a few.

GEOGRAPHY: Uruguay, smallest of the South American republics, is made up of low, rolling, grassy plains, wooded ranges and broad valleys. It has been called the "Purple Land" because of the purplish tinge given to the scene by the tall prairie grasses. Lakes, rivers or seacoasts make up over half of the boundaries of this heart-shaped land. A combination of abundant fertile pasture land, temperate climate and an unusually good water supply favor its oldest and greatest industry, stock-raising.

CULTURE: The aggressive, assertive, homogenous population of Uruguay is basically of Spanish and Italian descent although many other European nationals are represented. The warlike Charrúa Indians, who lived on the land before the arrival of the European conquerors, had disappeared entirely by 1832.

A highly literate country, Uruguay encourages all forms of culture. Government-directed institutions and groups promote intense and varied activities. The country has produced many notable social scientists as well as authorities on exact and physical sciences. Colonial literature was largely limited to scientific, educational and religious tracts. In the 19th century Juan Zorrilla de San Martín produced the poem Tabaré, a vigorous description of the wilderness, primitive Indian rites and Spanish conquest, considered to be one of the genuine epics of America. Other noted writers include Javier de Viana, Carlos Reyles, José Enrique Rodó and Juana de Ibarbourou. Outstanding in the field of painting are Juan Manuel Blanes, Pedro Figari and Joaquín Torres-García. Folk and popular music in Uruguay reflects the mood of the people and of the land. One of the world-famous tangoes, La Cumparsita, was written by an Uruguayan, Gerardo Matos Rodríguez.

The animated, attractive capital city of Montevideo is a "city of roses," bright streets, prosperous shops and the sumptuous marble and granite Palacio Legislativo. The narrow peninsula projecting into the Río de la Plata contains the old original city, colonial in atmosphere. It is also a commercial and financial area with a busy, modern port and efficient harbor. Plaza Independencia, center of political and social life, joins the ancient and modern sections of the city. Stretching along the shores of the Río de la Plata are the popular resorts.

At Colonia Valdense, a model colony of the Waldensians, inhabitants cling to many of the old customs their ancestors brought from the Piedmont Alps. Colonia, an important travel link between Buenos Aires and Montevideo, as well as an outstanding produce center, retains its colonial atmosphere. The advanced provincial town of San José is an important grain and agricultural center. The neat, clean railroad terminal city of Mercedes lies in the agricultural and livestock region. The major part of Uruguay's trade in meat and meat products is carried on in Fray Bentos, bustling meat-packing port on the Río Uruguay. "Queen of the North," Paysandú, is an attractive commercial city of flour mills, tanneries, sawmills, canning factories, creameries and breweries. The republic's second city, Salto, is noted for its great orange and tangerine groves although it also has livestock and agricultural industries as well as wineries and large-scale bee farms.

Picturesque Minas, encircled by hills and forest, lies in an area of coal, mineral, marble and granite deposits. It is the birth-place of Juan Lavalleja, leader of the famous "Thirty-three" patriots of Uruguay's independence.

HISTORY; Juan Díaz de Solís, a Spanish explorer, landed in what is now Uruguay in 1516 but was soon killed by Indians. In 1520 Magellan, by authority of the Spanish King, led an expedition there. It was not until 1574, however, that the first permanent Spanish settlement was founded at Salvador. In 1680 the Portuguese founded Colonia on the shore opposite the Spanish city of Buenos Aires. The government at Buenos Aires in 1726 authorized the founding of the fortified city of Montevideo to prevent the Portuguese from penetrating further into the territory. There followed a period of struggle for this territory east of the Uruguay River known as the Banda Oriental. It was made part of the Viceroyalty of Río de la Plata in 1776 and in 1777 was formally ceded to Spain by Portugal. In 1806 the British captured Buenos Aires and Montevideo but were driven out by the Spanish colonists. Patriots under the leadership of the Uruguayan national hero José Gervasio Artigas attempted to gain independence in 1820 but were defeated. Then Brazil took over Uruguay under the name of the Cisplatine Province. In 1825, Juan Antonio Lavalleja, a compatriot of Artigas, together with a group known as the "Treinta y Tres" or Thirty-Three, issued a declaration of independence which contained a statement of adherence to the United Provinces of Río de la Plata or Argentina. This brought on a war with Brazil on one side and Uruguay and Argentina on the other. A treaty of peace was signed in 1828 stipulating Uruguay's independence from both Brazil and Argentina. Uruguay adopted a constitution in 1830. In 1843 the so-called Ten Years War began--a period of struggle between rival political parties during which one party, the Blancos, was aided by the Argentine ruler Manuel Rosas. In 1865 Uruguay was drawn into the War of the Triple Alliance, between Paraguay on one side and Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay on the other.

In 1911 José Batlle y Ordóñez became president and began social reforms which have made Uruguay unique. By a plebiscite held on December 16, 1951, Uruguay adopted a nine-member National Council of Government as the executive branch of the Government, based on a concept of Batlle after he studied the Swiss model. The General Assembly or legislative branch has two chambers; the Senate and the House of Representatives.

ECONOMY: Stock raising is the base of Uruguay's economy with wool production playing a leading part. Agriculture is steadily increasing as a national industry. Mining has a minor role although common stone and sand are profitable export items. Various industries have been established. Principal exports are wool, meat and meat extracts, grain and agricultural products, hides and skins. Leading imports are raw materials, dry goods and general merchandise, automotive vehicles, foodstuffs, construction material, fuel and lubricants.

FLAG: The Uruguayan flag consists of four blue horizontal stripes alternating with five white ones, with a golden sun in a white square in the upper corner next to the flagstaff.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order:

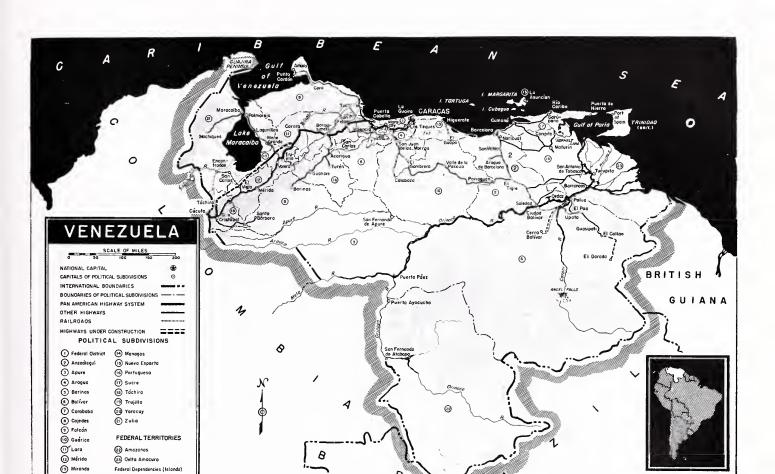
Uruguay, 10 cents; José Artigas, 10 cents; Yerba Maté, 10 cents; Constitution of the Republic of Uruguay, 25 cents; A Statement of the Laws of Uruguay, \$3.00.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Per year \$3.00.

Catalog of Pan American Union Publications. Free on request.

VENEZUELA





Area: 352,150 sq. miles Population: 4,985,716

Capital: Caracas

Currency: Bolivar = \$.29 U.S.

Language: Spanish

Independence Day: July 5, 1811 National Hero: Simón Bolívar National Flower: Flor de Maya

Venezuela, land of the orchid and "black gold" (petroleum), is rich in the variety as well as the quantity of its natural resources--petroleum, gold, diamonds, iron and copper. Venezuela ranks first as an oil-exporting nation, and second only to the United States as a world producer. Its iron deposits reportedly have the highest mineral content in the world. This homeland of the great Liberator, Simón Bolívar, is said to have received its name from the early explorers who, upon seeing the natives' homes built over the waters of Lake Maracaibo, called it "Little Venice."

GEOGRAPHY: Venezuela, which can be divided into four regions, lies completely within the Torrid Zone but varies greatly in climate because of its physical characteristics. In the first region, an almost unbroken chain of mountains fringe the west and north. The broad, compact Sierra Nevada de Mérida, part of the lofty Venezuelan Andes, contains the country's highest peaks, snow-capped La Columna, La Corona and La Concha. A lower range, the Coro or Segovia highlands, lying north of Barquisimeto, is a region of recurring droughts which is lightly populated. Behind the hot, dry Caribbean coast, lies the temperate coffee and cacao-producing region of the Central Highlands. This center of political, social and economic life includes the rich, fertile basin of Valencia, narrow

valleys and steep slopes. The great oil-producing region of the tropical Maracaibo lowlands is a V-shaped area of oppressive humidity surrounding horseshoe-shaped Lake Maracaibo. The wide *llanos* (plains) on both sides of the great Orinoco River are the center of the Venezuelan cattle industry, although the weather and terrain are not especially suitable for cattle-herding. The llanos are flooded during the rainy season and dry and barren in many places from December to March. Sections of the Orinoco country, made up of dense and all but impenetrable jungle, remain unexplored. The remote, sparsely populated, mountainous Guiana Highlands region consists of extensive grasslands, forests, rounded hills and narrow valleys formed on crystalline rocks. Enormous iron ore deposits are known to exist in this region, as well as deposits of gold and diamonds. The forests of the Orinoco basin and the Guiana Highlands are among tropical America's richest storehouses of timber. In the rugged, dramatic Gran Sabana (Great Plain) Highlands, a newly opened frontier, rivers cut the high plateaus then drop in mighty waterfalls to the lowlands. Angel Falls is said to be the highest known waterfalls in the world. The territory of Venezuela also includes 72 islands. The largest, the tropical island of Margarita, is an important pearl center.

HISTORY: Columbus, in 1498, sailed along the Venezuelan shore. His reports of finding pearls and gold induced Alonzo de Ojeda, Juan de la Cosa and Amerigo Vespucci to do further exploring. The first permanent settlement (1520) was near the present site of Cumaná. In 1528 Charles V gave the German banking house of the Welsers the right to conquer and settle Venezuela. In 1546 the Spanish revoked the Welsers' contract and again took over the job of colonizing. Caracas, founded in 1567, became the capital in 1577. Through the first half of the 16th century Nueva Andalucía, which included most of eastern Venezuela, was directly under the Audiencia of Santo Domingo. Later it was incorporated into the Viceroyalty of New Granada (Colombia) and in 1777 it became the Captaincy General of the United Provinces of Venezuela. In 1786 the Royal Audiencia of Caracas was created. To the cause of independence, Venezuela contributed two extraordinary leaders: Francisco de Miranda, who has been acclaimed the forerunner of the independence movement, and Simón Bolívar, the Liberator of northern South America. On July 5, 1811, the Venezuelan Government declared its independence from Spain and later that year adopted a federal constitution. Royalist forces regained control of the country but were decisively defeated at Carabobo in 1821. The Venezuelan Republic then became part of Great Colombia, which also included what are now Colombia, Ecuador and Panama, under the presidency of Bolívar. In 1830 Venezuela seceded from Great Colombia and adopted its own constitution.

Venezuela is a federal republic. A new Constitution was promulgated in April, 1953. This constitution changed the official name of Venezuela from "United States of Venezuela" to the "Republic of Venezuela."

CULTURE: It has been estimated that two-thirds of the Venezuelans are of European and Indian ancestry. Samples of the ancient arts and crafts of the Indians who lived in Venezuela before the coming of the Spaniards show that ceramic-making was one of their artistic achievements, an art which is kept alive by the Indians of the Venezuelan Andes. A characteristic of Venezuelan colonial architecture is the solid simplicity of the churches. In the field of painting, the outstanding 19th century painter Martín Tovar y Tovar, in a series of enormous canvases, depicted the famous battles of the wars of independence in highly dramatic compositions and brilliant colors. Tito Salas, one of Venezuela's best-known painters, also portrayed his country's history, A school of plastic art has produced a distinguished array of fine painters. Iléctor Poleo is outstanding in this group for his mastery of line and color. The founding of the Chacao Conservatory in the 18th century placed music in a place of importance in Venezuelan cultural life. José Angel Lamas' "Popule Meus" is said to be one of the most beautiful American religious compositions of the 18th century. Native Venezuelan handicrafts are many, including the famous "oro cochano" gold and pearl jewelry; articles made of mother-of-pearl; hammocks woven of fiber or cotton into elaborate patterns--Barquisimeto hammocks are especially famous; the exotic products of the interior llanos--rare and vivid feather work and elaborately designed riding whips; and laces and fine embroideries. In the field of literature, "Doña Bárbara" by Rómulo Gallegos, is a classic in South American fiction, depicting realistically life on the central plains.

La Guaira, Venezuela's principal port, is a city of steep, narrow streets climbing sharply up from the busy port to the pastel-tinted houses of the upper town. The green slopes of the coastal mountains form an impressive backdrop to the harbor. In the political and commercial capital city, Caracas, one encounters at every turn reminders of Simón Bolívar such as the Bolívar Museum, the National Pantheon and the Casa Natal where he was born. The Old World atmosphere is caught in the red-tiled roofs, narrow, tree-lined streets, flower-filled patios and one-story houses with overhanging balconies. The modern spirit has been carried out in buildings of the most advanced functional architecture. Maracay, center of a rich coffee and sugar region, is also important for its timber and cattle industries. Originally a quaint, attractive town with Spanish colonial houses, it is now a modern city of varied industries. Valencia, in a setting of rolling hills, valleys of orange and lemon groves, rich bottom lands with fields of sugar cane and slopes planted with green coffee trees, is the center of the banana and cacao region. It is the manufacturing center of the country as well. Elaborate wrought-iron window grills and nail-studded doors give the homes there a colonial charm. Maracaibo, Venezuela's second city, is of great importance as an oil metropolis. Ciudad Bolívar, original home of the famous Angostura bitters, is historically important because it was here Great Colombia was proclaimed and Bolívar was elected its prèsident. Ciudad Bolívar is the key city in the new iron ore development.

ECONOMY: Venezuela is predominantly an agricultural nation in that agriculture is the most important domestically-owned industry. Its petroleum resources are of primary importance to the national economy. Manufacturing is in an early stage of development. Venezuela has ample stocks of gold and dollar exchange to meet the needs of its expanding economy; a small internal debt; a balanced budget and a government surplus. Its principal exports are petroleum, coffee and cacao. Its principal imports are machinery, instruments and apparatus; metals and manufactures; and textiles and foodstuffs.

FLAG: The Venezuelan flag consists of three horizontal stripes of equal width, yellow at the top, blue in the center and red at the bottom. The blue stripe has an arc of seven white stars representing the seven provinces which declared independence.

Pan American Union Publications available at PAU Building Information Desk or by mail order:

Simón Bolívar, 10 cents; Visit Venezuela, 15 cents; Venezuela, 10 cents; Constitution of the Republic of Venezuela, 25 cents; Petroleum, 10 cents; Iron, 10 cents; Cacao, 10 cents; Tonka Bean, 10 cents.

ALSO: Américas. Monthly illustrated magazine about the 21 American Republics. (English, Spanish and Portuguese editions). Per year, \$3.00.

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THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)

The OAS is an international organization created by the 21 American Republics to achieve an order of peace and justice, to promote their solidarity, to strengthen their collaboration, and to defend their sovereignity, territorial integrity and independence.

The Member States are: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the United States, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The OAS had its inception in 1890 during the First International Conference of American States which met in Washington. At that time the Pan American Union, then known as the Commercial Bureau of the American Republics, was created. Actually, the basic principles of mutual cooperation and reciprocal assistance which are the foundation of the inter-American regional system, existed long before the formal establishment of the system, and received their earliest expression at the Congress of Panama convoked by the Liberator Simón Bolívar in 1826.

In the years following 1890 various general and specialized conferences were held and new agencies established. In 1948, at the Ninth International Conference of American States, the Charter of the Organization of American States was signed. This instrument for the first time gave official name, as well as juridical form and structure, to the numerous instrumentalities that had evolved during the preceding 60 years, and which were usually referred to under the general title of the Inter-American System. The OAS functions through six principal agencies or organs:

- (1) The Inter-American Conference, "supreme organ" of the Organization, meets every five years to decide general action and policy.
- (2) The Meeting of Consultation of Ministers of Foreign Affairs, meets on request to consider cases of an urgent nature and common interest, and also as Organ of Consultation to deal with threats to the peace and security of the Continent.
- (3) The Council, permanent representative body and provisional Organ of Consultation. Composed of one Representative from each Member State, the Council meets regularly throughout the year at the Pan American Union. It also has three subsidiary organs, the Economic and Social Council, the Council of Jurists, and the Cultural Council.
 - (4) The Pan American Union, central permanent organ and General Secretariat.
- (5) The Specialized Conferences, which deal with special technical matters and develop specific aspects of inter-American cooperation.
- (6) The Specialized Organizations, which have specific functions with respect to technical matters of common interest.

Through these agencies and instrumentalities the OAS today provides tested and effective machinery to strengthen the peace and security of the Member States; to prevent possible causes of difficulties and to ensure the pacific settlement of disputes; to provide for common action in the event of aggression; to seek the solution of political, juridical and economic problems that may arise among them; and to promote, by cooperative action, their economic, social and cultural development.

The Pan American Union, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., performs a wide variety of general and technical services for all the other organs of the Organization, as well as for the Governments and the peoples of the Member States.

Pan American Day is celebrated annually throughout the Americas on April 14th.

INTRODUCTION TO ...

The Twenty Latin American Nations Members of the OAS

Pan American Union • Washington, D. C., 1956



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